From oed

enterlend, -love
see enter- prefix.

love, n. 1
c. adverbial (chiefly instrumental) and parasynthetic, as love-born, -crossed, -deep, -dittied, -enthralled, -fond, -illumined, -inspired, -instructed, -laboured, -laden, -learned, -lighted, -lit, -mad, -open, -pensive, -proof, -quick, -shaked, -smitten, -spent, -starved, -stricken, -touched, wounded adjs.

1725: Pope Odyss. x. 398 "*Love-born confidence."

1834: Lytton Pompeii iii. ii, "Thy Master was *love-crossed."

1885-94: R. Bridges Eros & Psyche Oct. iv, "Many an old love-crost And doleful ditty would she gently sing."

1832: Tennyson Eleänore 76 "The languors of thy *love-deep eyes."

1725: Pope Odyss. i. 532 "*Love-dittied airs, and dance, conclude the day."

1665: R. Brathwait Comment Two Tales 23 "We are now to..descend to our *love-enthralled Absolon."

1823: Roscoe Sismondi's Lit. Eur. (1846) II. xxxvi. 458 "The melancholy soul of a *love-fond poet."

1781: E. Darwin Bot. Gard. i. (1791) 19 "Guard from cold dews her *love-illumin'd form."

1768: Wolcot (P. Pindar) Elegy Fleas Teneriffe ix, "The *love-inspir'd Fandango warms no more."

a1586: Sidney Arcadia i. (1598) 90 "Then did he slacke his *loue-enstructed pace."

1667: Milton P.L. v. 41 "The night-warbling Bird, that now awake Tunes sweetest his *love-labor'd song."

1820: Shelley Skylark ix, "Soothing her *love-laden Soul in secret hour With music sweet as love."

1595: Spenser Epithal. 88 "The birds *love-learned song."

1785: T. Dwight Conquest of Canäan (1788) iii. 78 "For earth too bright were these *love-lighted fires!"

1904: Daily Chron. 9 Feb. 5/2 "Peering through the pale miracle of spring at his violets,..his blear eyes love-lighted."

1855: J. R. Lowell In-doors Out in Uncoll. Poems (1950) 107 "No glimmering beacon's *love-lit rays Will homeward guide the wand'rer's feet."

1948: Blunden Shakespeare to Hardy (1964) 208 "Here she is in her father's garden, flowering, love-lit, awaiting the slow old Nurse."

1839: Hallam Hist. Lit. IV. iv. vi. 5. 259 "*Love-mad and yet talking in gallant conceits."

a1586: Sidney Arcadia i. (1598) 91 "His *loue-open eye..that eu'n did marke her troden grasse."

1717: Fenton Poems 101 "Wand'ring *Love-pensive near his Amber Stream."

1810: Splendid Follies III. 121 "The widow..placed herself opposite this *love-proof hero."

1595: Daniel Civ. Wars ii. lxxv, "[She] her *love-quicke eyes, which ready be, Fastens on one."

1600: Shakes. A.Y.L. iii. ii. 385, "I am he that is so *Loue-shak'd, I pray you tel me your remedie."

1848: Thackeray Van. Fair lvii, "This *love-smitten and middle-aged gentleman."

1648: Herrick Hesper., To Willow-tree (1869) 112 "The *love-spent youth, and love-sick maid."

1909: Westm. Gaz. 24 July 2/1 "*Love-starved young Keats hath cast his gift of clay."

1955: New Yorker 25 June 59/1 "The heroine is a love-starved American secretary."

1805: T. S. Surr Winter in Lond. (1806) II. x. 247 "Bless me, the youth is *love-stricken!"

1872: A. de Vere Leg. St. Patrick, Arraignm. St. P. 7 "Like birds that cannot stay their songs *Love-touched in Spring."

1591: Shakes. Two Gent. i. ii. 113 "*Loue wounded Protheus."

love, n. 1
b. objective and objective genitive, as love-breathing, -darting, -devouring, -inspiring, -lacking, etc.; love-frayner (= asker), -monger, etc.

1730-46: Thomson Autumn 593 "In rapture warbled from *love-breathing lips."

1605: Sylvester Du Bartas ii. iii. iv. Captains 849 "Her sweet, *love-darting Eyn."

1634: Milton Comus 753 "Love-darting eyes."

1592: Shakes. Rom. & Jul. ii. vi. 7 "Then *Loue-deuouring death do what he dare."

a1400: Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS. (1867) 59 "Þat he ne do no trispase agayne þe rewle..of þis relegion, and of þase *lufe frayners."

1797: M. Robinson Walsingham I. 277 "The *love-inspiring dames of luxurious Italy."

1532: More Confut. Tindale Wks. 403/1 "His false *loue-lacking charitie."

1592: Shakes. Ven. & Ad. cxxv, "Loue-lacking vestals, and selfe-louing Nuns."

1588: L.L.L. ii. i. 253 "Thou art an old *Loue-monger."

1882: Spectator 9 Dec. 1579 "His [Sterne's] *lovemongering was altogether contemptible."

1592: Shakes. Rom. & Jul. iii. ii. 5 "Spred thy close Curtaine *Loue-performing night."

1742: Pope Dunc. iv. 306 "*Love-whisp'ring woods, and lute-resounding waves."

love, n. 1
16. a. Special combs.: love-affair, in early use pl. the experiences connected with being in love; now sing. (in somewhat disparaging use) an amatory episode in a person's life, an amour; also fig.; love amour, sexual love as distinguished from friendship; love-badge, ? a badge indicating profession of amorous allegiance; love beads, a necklace of coloured beads worn as a symbol of universal love; love-begotten a., illegitimate; love-bend, the `fetters' of love; love-blink Sc., a look of love; love-book, (a) the book of `the Song of Solomon'; (b) a book treating of love; love-boy, a catamite; love-brat = love-child; love-broker, one who acts as an agent between lovers; so love-broking; love-call, a call or note used as a means of amorous communication between the sexes; love-cause = love-affair; love comic, a comic (sense B. 2) in which the principal ingredient of the stories is love; love-cup, (a) a philtre; (b) a loving-cup; love-curl, a lovelock, esp. on the forehead; love-dart, an organ found in certain snails (see quot.), the spiculum amoris; love-deed, an action proceeding from love; love-dose, -draught, a philtre; love-dread, the fear that proceeds from love, `filial' fear; love-drunk, intoxication with love; love-eie (= awe) = love-dread; love-favour (see favour n. 7); love-feat, an act of courtship; love-hate, (orig. a psychoanalytic) term used to describe ambivalent feelings of love and hate existing towards the same object; freq. attrib.; so as v.; also love-hatred; love-hood (see sense 13); love-interest, a theme or episode in a story, film, etc., of which the main element is the affection of lovers; love-juice, (a) a juice which dropped upon the eyes has the effect of a philtre; (b) an aphrodisiac; (c) a sexual secretion; love-lace, the snare of love; love-lad, a lover; love-lake = love-sport; love-lass, a sweetheart; love-late, amorous looks or demeanour; love-libel, a love-letter or message; love-life, relations between the sexes as they affect a particular person; love-liking, sexual affection; love-line nonce-wd., a love-letter; love-match, a marriage of which the motive is love, not worldly advantage or convenience; love-money, coins broken in two and divided between lovers or friends as a token of remembrance; love-nest, a secluded retreat for (esp. illicit) lovers; love-nettled a., deeply in love; love-object, the object on which love is centred; love-paper nonce-wd., a love-letter; love-pass = love-passage; love-passage, an incident of amatory experience; love-pat, a smart tap given out of love (cf. love-tick); love-pennant, ? a pennant with which a departing ship is decorated; love-philtre, often redundantly = philtre; love-play, wooing, caressing, spec. foreplay; also fig.; love-potion, a philtre = love-drink; love-powder, (a) a powder administered as a philtre; (b) nonce-use, the explosive stuff of love; love-ribbon, a narrow gauze ribbon with satin stripes (cf. sense 13); love-ron, -rune, a tale or song of love; love-scene, a scene, esp. in a story or play, consisting of an interview between lovers; love-seal, a seal with a device appropriate to amatory correspondence; love-seat, a special form of arm-chair (also, of sofa) designed for two occupants; love-soken (see quot.); love-spoon, a wooden spoon, sometimes with a double bowl, carved for presentation to one's intended wife; love-sport, amorous play or dalliance; love-story, a story in which the main theme is the affection existing between lovers; love-tale = prec.; love-tap, a tap or gentle blow to indicate love; love-thing, ? a pledge of love; love-tick = love-tap; love-tiding, a message of love; love-tight a., so as to be proof against love; love-tooth, an inclination for love; love-up [cf. love v. 1 1d] slang, an act of caressing, hugging, etc.; love-wine, wine served out to a company in a loving-cup.

1591: Shakes. Two Gent. iii. i. 254, "I'le..confer at large Of all that may concerne thy *Loue-affaires."

1862: National Rev. XIV. 220 "They have suggested that some irregular love-affair was unprosperous."

1867: Trollope Chron. Barset I. xxv. 217, "I think you are aware that you have got a love-affair on hand."

1969: Times 25 Mar. 9/4 "The crazy world of Erogenous Zones [sc. a play] is the result of 25-year-old Mike Stott's love affair with American strip cartoons."

1974: Times 4 Dec. 17 "This century's love-affair with the motor-car."

c1350: Ipomadon (Kölbing) 127 "Nowghte she covthe of *love amowre."

1656: Sir J. Mennis & J. Smith Musarum Deliciæ 35 "Another ask't me..Whether I wore a *Love-bagge on my shoulder?"

1968: Daily Colonist (Victoria, B.C.) 20 June 1/5 "*Love beads draped on him by Pierre Trudeau, adorn former Prime Minister Pearson at Toronto political rally."

1969: R. Lowell Notebk. 1967-68 (1970) 217 "Our love-beads Rattling together to show that we were young."

1973: `B. Mather' Snowline xiii. 155 "Weirdo fringed shirts, headbands, love beads..as unsavoury a bunch of love children as I have ever seen."

1771: Smollett Humph. Cl. 24 May, "That he had been a *love-begotten babe, brought up in the workhouse."

1784: Registers of River, Kent (MS.), "Mary, daughter of Ann Allen—Love begotten, [baptized]."

c1250: Hymn to Virgin 35 in Trin. Coll. Hom. App. 256 "Ic êm in þine *loue bende."

13..: Guy Warw. (A.) 324 "Leuer him wer walk & wende, & dye in trewe loue bende."

1508: Dunbar Tua mariit wemen 228, "I cast on him a crabbit E..And lettis it is a *luf-blenk."

1636: Rutherford Lett. (1862) I. 155 "My Bridegroom's love-blinks fatten my weary soul."

a1225: Ancr. R. 102 "Ase mi leofmon þet seið to me, iðe *luue boc, `osculetur me osculo oris sui'."

1587: F. Clement Petie Schole 36 "Bookeloue I say, but I meane not louebookes, which..be the enemies of vertue."

1591: Shakes. Two Gent. i. i. 19 "For I will be thy beadesman, Valentine. Val. And on a loue-booke pray for my successe?"

1936: C. S. Lewis Allegory of Love iv. 172 "Hence those strange comings and goings in every medieval love-book."

a1656: Ussher Ann. vi. (1658) 131 "Pausanias, being discovered by Argilius, his *love-boy."

?16..: Old Chap-bk. (N.), "Four *love brats will be laid to thee."

1601: Shakes. Twel. N. iii. ii. 39 "There is no *loue-Broker in the world, can more preuaile in mans commendation with woman, then report of valour."

1808: E. S. Barrett Miss-led General 165 "What money Mr. Greentimber disbursed on account of the great man's *love-broking affairs."

1824: Miss Mitford Village Ser. i. 198 "In less than two minutes Harriet heard the *love-call sounded at Sally's gate."

1887: Athenæum 31 Dec. 901/3 "He [Mr. Rowbotham] disagrees with Darwin in finding the origin of all instrumental music in the love-call."

1600: Shakes. A.Y.L. iv. i. 97 "In all this time there was not anie man died in his owne person (videlicet) in a *loue cause."

1951: M. McLuhan Mech. Bride (1967) 151/2 "It recently shifted a large section of its enterprises from murder to *love comics."

1970: G. Greer Female Eunuch 214 "The market is contested by..love comics and fotoromance."

1561: J. Daus tr. Bullinger on Apoc. (1573) 128 "Poysoning *louecuppes, and inchauntments, were in the tyme of S. John most frequented throughout the Romayne Empyre."

1849: Rock Ch. of Fathers IV. xi. 86 "The love-cup was sent about."

1850: H. Melville White Jacket II. xxxvii. 240 "Many sailors, with naturally tendril locks, prided themselves upon what they call *love curls."

1926: T. E. Lawrence Seven Pillars (1935) lxxxvi. 479 "In command was young Metaab, stripped to his skimp riding-drawers for hard work, with his black love-curls awry."

1877: F. P. Pascoe Zool. Classif. 122 "A curious organ is a pyriform muscular sac, containing one or two slender conical styles, which can be thrust out through the aperture of the sac; they are found in certain snails, and with them they pierce each other's skin. They are known as `*love-darts'."

13..: Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS. liv. 62 "And þis I made for Monkynde, Mi *loue-dedes to haue in mynde."

1709: J. Johnson Clergym. Vade M. ii. 69 "Pharmacy probably signifies here..the compounding of philtrums or *love-doses."

1647: R. Stapylton Juvenal 85 "Their *love-draughts, charmes, and druggs."

1841: Borrow Zincali I. ii. i. 228 "The women..dealing in love draughts and diablerie."

1906: Westm. Gaz. 27 Aug. 3/1 "The love-draught which Tristram and Iseult drink together."

c1380: Wyclif Serm. Sel. Wks. II. 316 "*Love-drede is in men wiþouten siche servile drede."

c1440: Jacob's Well xxxviii. 243 "For þe loue-dreed þat sche hadde to god."

1390: Gower Conf. III. 11 "*Lovedrunke is the meschief Above alle othre the most chief."

a1225: Ancr. R. 428 "Liðe wordes..þerof kumeð þinge best—þet is *luueeie."

1597: Bp. Hall Sat. i. ii. B3b, "Deck't with *love-fauors."

1588: Shakes. L.L.L. v. ii. 123 "And euery one his *Loue-feat will aduance Vnto his seuerall Mistresse."

1925: J. Riviere et al. tr. Freud's Coll. Papers IV. 79 "So the second antithesis, *love-hate, reproduces the polarity pleasure-pain, which is bound up with the former."

1937: H. Nicolson Diary 16 June (1966) 302 "Goering..has the love-hate complex of the average German bourgeois for England."

1950: E. J. Simmons Dostoevsky xix. 315 "Versilov's..love-hate relations with Katerina which conclude with his mad attempt to murder her."

1967: A. Wilson No Laughing Matter ii. 216 "She love-hates him enough to be unable to leave him."

1972: Ld. Robens Ten Year Stint ii. 15 "My personal relationship with the men and their leaders was schizophrenic—a sort of love-hate relationship."

1951: H. Hatfield Thomas Mann iii. 36 "The protagonists in Two Friends, a novella of the *love-hatred between a responsible burgher and a ne'er-do-well, afford a certain parallel to Thomas and Christian Buddenbrook."

1961: Times 18 Mar. 11/4 "The love-hatred of Isolde for Tristan."

1892: H. James Notebks. (1947) 129 "There must be a `*love-interest'—which is one and the same with the other parts of the situation."

1938: R. G. Collingwood Princ. Art v. 84 "The cinema, where it is said to be a principle accepted by almost every manager that no film can succeed without a love-interest."

1961: C. S. Lewis Exper. in Crit. iv. 38 "The story of excitement or mystery usually has a `love interest' tacked on to it."

1973: Time Out 2-8 Mar. 59/3 "`Love-interest' rears its inept head just as the medical satire should show its teeth."

1590: Shakes. Mids. N. iii. ii. 89 "Thou hast mistaken quite And laid the *loue iuyce on some true loues sight."

1896: Farmer & Henley Slang IV. 241/1 "Love-juice."

1965: J. Gaskell Fabulous Heroine 59 "The sheets smelt of linen instead of love-juice."

1968: L. Berg Risinghill 122 "`What is love-juice?' `The liquid produced in the vagina of a woman when she is sexually excited.'"

1972: `R. Crawford' Whip Hand i. ix. 54 "She was drugged by love-juices and on the brink of sleep."

1972: Pussycat XXXIII. lix. 7/2, "I could feel his lovejuice so hot, trickling down into the start of my stomach."

c1330: Arth. & Merl. 2251 (Kölbing) "He was nomen wiþ *loue las."

1586: W. Webbe Eng. Poetrie (Arb.) 84 "The Cornation that among the *loue laddes wontes to be worne much."

c1320: Sir Tristr. 2020 "Her *loue laike þou bi hald For þe loue of me."

1610: Niccols Eng. Eliza Induct. Mirr. Mag. 776 "So soone as Tython's *love-lasse gan display Her opall colours in her Easterne throne."

a1225: Ancr. R. 90 "His eie euer bihalt te ȝif þu makest..eni *luue lates touward unðeauwes."

1602: Dekker Satiromastix Wks. 1873 I. 215 "Sir Vau... I desire you to..read this Paper. Miniver. Ile receive no *Love libels perdy, but by word a mouth."

1919: M. K. Bradby Psycho-Anal. v. 59 "The character and development of the infantile love for father and mother will have an influence on the whole *love-life of later years."

1934: `R. West' Mod. Rake's Progress 74 "Ecclesiastics..called out to sanctify the love-life of our puny little George."

1959: A. Christie Cat among Pigeons viii. 89 "Even Games Mistresses may have their love lives."

1972: T. Ardies This Suitcase xiii. 140 "He's the guy who's trying to break up my love life."

c1386: Chaucer Sir Thopas 2040 "Of romances that been royales, Of popes and of cardinales, And eek of *love-lykinge."

1601: Shakes. All's Well ii. i. 81 "To giue great Charlemaine a pen in's hand And write to her a *loue-line."

1749: Fielding Tom Jones xiii. viii, "This was a *love-match, as they call it, on both sides; this is, a match between two beggars."

1869: Trollope He Knew etc. xxv. (1878) 138 "It was little enough she got by marrying him... But it was a love-match."

1856: W. H. Smyth Rom. Fam. Coins 281 "The custom of breaking *love-money, as a pledge of fidelity."

1919: U. Sinclair Brass Check xi. 65 "So before long we began to notice dark hints in the newspapers; such esoteric phrases as `Sinclair's *love-nest'."

1970: G. Greer Female Eunuch 154 "Nobody knew of his love-nest."

1972: `H. Howard' Nice Day for Funeral ix. 124 "Pamela and Frankie were sharing a love-nest at Lakeland Towers."

1586: D. Rowland Lazarillo ii. (1672) Xviii, "I was so *love-nettled, that if they had asked me the Phenix..I would have given it them."

1923: J. T. MacCurdy Probl. Dynamic Psychol. xvi. 191 "The `sentiment of love'..consists in identification with the *love object."

1925: J. Riviere et al. tr. Freud's Coll. Papers IV. 45 "In the choice of their love-object they have taken as their model not the mother but their own selves."

1960: C. Day Lewis Buried Day vii. 137 "When it became apparent that..as a love-object, I myself was unsatisfactory, she started on dogs."

1967: M. E. Romm in C. W. Wahl Sexual Probl. 221 "Fetishism is..the utilization in sex of a substitute for the love object."

1973: S. Fisher Female Orgasm xv. 437 "Orgasm difficulties were observed to be linked to concern about the instability or potential loss of love objects."

c1613: Middleton No Wit like a Woman's i. ii, "Peruse this *love-paper as you go. [Giving letter.]"

1872: Hardy Under Greenw. Tree I. i. viii. 113 "Good luck attended Dick's *love-passes during the meal. He sat next Fancy."

1845: C. M. Kirkland Western Clearings 106 "No one..had ever been able to ascertain whether there had actually been any `*love-passages' between them or not."

1865: Tylor Early Hist. Man. iii. 43 "Love-passages of the gods and heroes."

1876: C. D. Warner Wint. Nile i. 24 "Garibaldi received one of his wounds, a sort of *love-pat of fame."

1889: Doyle Micah Clarke 377 "You are like the same ship when the battle and the storm have..torn the *love-pennants from her peak."

1834: Lytton Pompeii ii. 20 "The very air seems to have taken a *love-philtre, so handsome does every face without a beard seem in my eyes."

1911: *Love-play [see courting vbl. n. 3].

1944: T. Rattigan While Sun Shines ii. 226 "You're both very much mistaken if either of you imagines that you're going to have twopence-worth of verbal loveplay with my fiancée on my telephone."

1963: A. Heron Towards Quaker View of Sex 55 "Adult heterosexuality presents fewer problems where early love play is tolerated than where it is suppressed."

1964: L. Nkosi Rhythm of Violence 46 "Lili: Jo, I don't want to play. Jojozi: [tries to kiss her.] Not even love-play?"

1647: R. Stapylton Juvenal 85 margin, "Philters or *love-potions."

1623: Webster Duchess of Malfi v. ii, "Confesse to me Which of my women 'twas you hyr'd to put *Loue-powder into my drinke?"

1678: Butler Hud. iii. i. 661 "When he's with Love-powder laden, And Prim'd, and Cock'd by Miss, or Madam."

1742: J. Yarrow Love at First Sight 14 "There are Things call'd Charms, Bribes, and Love-Powder."

c1805: Mrs. Sherwood in Life xix. (1847) 329, "I made her and Annie new caps, which I trimmed with rosettes of black *love-ribbon."

1882: Caulfeild & Saward Dict. Needlewk., "Love-ribbon,..was employed to tie on Crape Hat-bands when worn at funerals, and is now occasionally worn by ladies in their caps."

a1225: Leg. Kath. 109 "Nalde ha..nane *luue runes leornin ne lustnen."

c1275: A Luue Ron 2 in O.E. Misc. 93 "A Mayde cristes me bit yorne þat ich hire wurche a luue ron."

1639: Massinger Unnat. Combat iii. iii. 181, "I will bring you Where you..may see The *love-scene acted."

1818: Theatrical Inquisitor XIII. 183 "Love-scenes..which both French and English writers..regard as absolutely essential to their drama."

1850: Hannay Singleton Fontenoy i. iii. I. 35 "Circe resumed a love-scene between Adèle and the tender forçat."

1932: R. Campbell Taurine Provence 37 "Read his [sc. Shaw's] miserable love-letters (published) and his `love-scene' between Caesar and Cleopatra."

1975: Country Life 6 Feb. 326/2 "Intimate, tender love-scenes."

1877: W. Jones Finger-ring 21 "The impress being two human heads..the prototype of the numerous `*love seals' of a later period."

1904: *Love-seat [see double chair (double a. A. 6)].

1915: F. W. Burgess Antique Furnit. 205 "Such settees which closely resemble an adaptation of two single chairs, are commonly called `love-seats'."

1970: Canad. Antiques Collector Dec. 21/1 "A Victorian love seat Mr. Daniel saw being hauled away in a garbage truck."

1973: `D. Halliday' Dolly & Starry Bird x. 151 "Johnson..kissed her, and then..found a love seat and dropped there beside her."

1523: Fitzherb. Surv. 9b, "But and he [the tenant] bye his corne in the market or other places, he is than at lybertie to grynde where he may be best serued, that maner of grynding is called *loue Socone, and the lordes tenauntes be called bonde socon."

1918: W. R. Butterfield in Connoisseur Aug. 191/1 "At first,..*love-spoons did not differ greatly from the wooden spoons in ordinary use in the household."

1968: J. Arnold Shell Bk. Country Crafts 193 "The Welsh carvers..produced a great deal of fine work, amongst which were the celebrated love-spoons."

1972: Country Life 20 Jan. 160/2 "These [sc. stay busks] were rather in the manner of Welsh love-spoons and were made by young men for their intended marriage partners."

1605: Chapman All Fools i. i, "Where I am cloyde, And being bound to *loue sports, care not for them."

1623: Massinger Bondman i. iii, "They cannot..Vsher vs to our Litters, tell *loue Stories."

1890: Barrie My Lady Nicotine xxiii. (1901) 70/1 "The tragedy..is led up to by a pathetic love-story."

1633: Shirley Bird in Cage v. I2b, "Forgetting all their legends, and *Loue tales Of Venus, Cupid, and the scapes of Joue."

1667: Milton P.L. i. 452 "The Love-tale Infected Sions daughters with like heat."

1802: Ritson Anc. Engl. Metr. Rom. I. p. vii, "The love-tales of Longus, Heliodorus, and Xenophon of Ephesus."

1889: `Mark Twain' Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur xxxiii. 383 "When I make up my mind to hit a man, I don't plan out a *love-tap."

c1205: Lay. 169 "For he heo heuede swiþe ilofed, & *luf-þing hire biheite."

1493: Dives & Paup. x. viii. Iiijb, "Yt mischeif is noo curse but a *louetyk of god."

1627: Bp. Hall Passion Serm. Wks. 429 "These were but loue-ticks to what His soule endured."

1635: Quarles Embl. iii. vi. 146 "Her frownes..may chance to show An angry love-trick [read -tick] on his arme, or so."

a1250: Owl & Night. 1035 "Ich mai do þar gode note, And bringe hom *lovetiþinge, Vor ich of chirche songe singe."

1875: McLaren Serm. Ser. ii. iv. 71, "I can shut it out, sealing my heart *love-tight against it."

1580: Lyly Euphues (Arb.) 350, "I am nowe olde, yet haue I in my head a *loue tooth."

1953: `Caddie' Sydney Barmaid xxv. 136 "Come on, wot about a little bit of a *luv-up?"

1968: M. Allwright Roundabout ix. 65 "He looked so beaten by the world that I wanted to gather him in my arms on the spot and give him a good love-up."

1641: Best Farm. Bks. (Surtees) 117 "They perhapps have *love wine ready to give to the company when they light."

love, n. 1

4. a. That feeling of attachment which is based upon difference of sex; the affection which subsists between lover and sweetheart and is the normal basis of marriage. for love (in love): by reason of love (often placed in opposition to pecuniary considerations); also in weakened sense; love at first sight: the action or state of falling in love with someone whom one has never previously seen; love's young dream: the relationship of young lovers; the object of someone's love, a man regarded as the perfect lover.

c1000: Ælfric Gen. xxix. 20 "Iacob him hirsumode þa seofan ȝear for Rachele and hit þuhte him feawa daȝa for þære lufe, þe he to hire hæfde."

c1230: Hali Meid. 47 "For to drahen his luue toward hire."

c1374: Chaucer Troylus i. 508 "Now art þow yn þe snare That whilom Iapedest at loues peyne."

Ibid. ii. 667 "This was a sodeyn love, how mighte it be That she so lightly lovede Troilus Right for the firste sighte; ye, pardee?"

a1400-50: Alexander 226 "Þe lede lawid in hire lofe as leme dose of gledis."

1500-20: Dunbar Poems xlvi. 4, "I hard a merle with mirry notis sing A sang of lufe."

1540: R. Hyrde tr. Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom. (1592) Nij, "They that mary for love, shall lead their life in sorrow."

a1593: Marlowe Hero & Leander (1598) i. 175 "Where both deliberat, the loue is slight, Who euer lov'd, that lov'd not at first sight?"

1667: Milton P.L. iv. 750 "Haile wedded Love, mysterious Law, true sourse Of human ofspring."

1776: Johnson in Boswell 28 Mar., "It is commonly a weak man who marries for love."

1822: Hazlitt Table-Talk II. xvi. 354, "I do not think that what is called Love at first sight is so great an absurdity as it is sometimes imagined to be."

a1834: Moore Irish Mel., Love's Yng. Dream i, "But there's nothing half so sweet in life As love's young dream."

1839: [see beat v. 1 10].

a1849: Poe Annabel Lee 9 "We loved with a love that was more than love—I and my Annabel Lee."

1868: W. Collins Moonstone I. vii. 91 "You have heard of beautiful young ladies falling in love at first sight, and have thought it natural enough."

1898: J. K. Jerome Second Thoughts 155 "The stout lady, now regarded as a would-be blighter of love's young dream, was hustled into the back seat."

1903: Kipling Traffics for nothing.'"

1920: Galsworthy Skin Game i. 33, "I don't mean any tosh about love's young dream; but I do like being friends."

1937: D. L. Sayers Busman's Honeymoon xv. 307 "There now!.. If there ain't love's young dream a-comin' up the path."

1952: Scrutiny XVIII. 273 "We know that what we have here is no drama of romantic love-at-first-sight."

1961: C. McCullers Clock without Hands iv. 89 "In early youth, love at first sight, that epitome of passion, turns you into a zombie."

1966: L. Southworth Felon in Disguise viii. 121 "It calls for a sweetheart act, a proper `Love's Young Dream' routine."

1975: D. Bagley Snow Tiger xvi. 138 "Don't you believe in love at first sight?"

love, n. 1
2. In religious use, applied in an eminent sense to the paternal benevolence and affection of God towards His children, to the affectionate devotion due to God from His creatures, and to the affection of one created being to another so far as it is prompted by the sense of their common relationship to God. (Cf. charity 1.) Theologians distinguish the love of complacency, which implies approval of qualities in the object, and the love of benevolence, which is bestowed irrespective of the character of the object.

c975: Rushw. Gosp. John v. 42 "Ah ic cuðe iowih þætte lufo ȝodes ne habbas ȝe in iow."

c1200: Trin. Coll. Hom. 141 "Ure drihten forgiaf hire hire sinnen for two þinge, an is muchel leððe to hire sunne oðer muchel luue to him."

a1310: in Wright Lyric P. 70 "Jhesu, suete love the dude gredyn."

1526: Tindale 1 John v. 3 "This is the love of god, that we kepe his commaundementes."

1611: Bible 1 John iv. 16 "God is loue, and hee that dwelleth in loue, dwelleth in God."

1650: E. Leigh Annot. New Test. 220 "There is a two fold love in God. 1. Amor benevolentiæ, a love of well willing..2. Amor complacentiæ, a love of complacency."

1794: Coleridge Relig. Musings 192 "Lord of unsleeping Love, From everlasting Thou!"

1876: Mozley Univ. Serm. ii. 29 "Love in the Gospel sense is that general virtue which covers the motives."

love, n. 1
3. Strong predilection, liking or fondness for, or devotion to (something). Const. of, for, to (arch.), unto. to give, bear love to: to be devoted or addicted to.

c900: tr. Bæda's Hist. iv. xxvii. (Schipper) 514 "Swa mycel lufu to godcundre lare."

c1250: Gen. & Ex. 4067 "And for luue of ðis hore-plaȝe Manie for-leten godes laȝe."

1422: tr. Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv. 218 "Philosophie is no more but loue of witte and cvnnynge."

a1548: Hall Chron., Edw. IV 237b, "Blynde avarice and love of money."

1611: Bible Transl. Pref. 2 "For the loue that he bare vnto peace."

1726: Pope Postscript to Odyssey V. 305 "Let our love to Antiquity be ever so great."

1773: Mrs. Chapone Improv. Mind (1774) II. 32 "The love of truth, and a real desire of improvement."

c1810: Coleridge in Lit. Rem. (1838) III. 303 "Those vicious habits in which there is no love to sin."

1877: Gladstone Glean. I. 148 "The love of freedom itself is hardly stronger in England than the love of aristocracy."

1887: Fowler Princ. Mor. ii. i. 11 "Among these primary desires should be specified the love of ease and the love of occupation."

1888: C. Patmore in B. Champneys Mem. (1900) II. iv. 43 "When I was about fifteen my love for poetry began to get the better of my love for science."

love, n. 1
d. babe of love: = love-child.

1728-42: Pope Dunc. ii. 158 "Two babes of love close clinging to her waist."

1807: Crabbe Par. Reg. i. (1810) 70 "Recorded next a Babe of love I trace! Of many loves, the Mother's fresh disgrace."

love, n. 1
b. As a motive in imaginative literature.

1779-81: Johnson L.P., Addison "The greatest weakness of the play is in the scenes of love..Yet the love is so intimately mingled with the whole action, that [etc.]."

1859: Macaulay Biogr., W. Pitt (2nd par.), "This piece..is in some respects highly curious. There is no love. The whole plot is political."

love, n. 1
c. An instance of being in love. Also collect. pl., amatory relations, love-affairs.

1589: Puttenham Eng. Poesie iii. xxiii. (Arb.) 276 "Nothing is so vnpleasant to a man, as to be encountred in his chiefe affection, and specially in his loues."

1590: Spenser F.Q. i. ii. 3 "Like a young Squire, in loves and lusty-hed His wanton daies that ever loosely led."

1604: Shakes. Oth. v. ii. 41 "Oth. Thinke on thy sinnes. Des. They are Loues I beare to you."

1697: Dryden Virg. Georg. iv. 490 "All the Rapes of Gods, and ev'ry Love, From ancient Chaos down to youthful Jove."

1738: Swift Pol. Conversat. 103, "I suppose, the Colonel was cross'd in his first Love."

1844: Disraeli Coningsby viii. ii, "The sweet pathos of their mutual loves."

1849: James Woodman ii, "The loves of Mars and Venus."

love, n. 1
5. a. (With capital.) The personification of sexual affection; usu. masculine, and more or less identified with the Eros, Amor, or Cupid of classic mythology; formerly sometimes feminine, and capable of being identified with Venus. (See also 8a.)

13..: in Wright Lyric P. xvi. 53 "To love y putte pleyntes mo."

c1374: Chaucer Troylus i. 353 "For loue bygan his fetheres so to lyme."

1435: Misyn Fire of Love ii. xii. 102 "Weil it is sayd in play `luf gos before & ledis þe dawns'."

1566: Painter Pal. Pleas. i. 79b, "Notwithstanding dame Love is so favourable unto mee."

1588: Shakes. L.L.L. iv. iii. 380 "Fore runne faire Loue, strewing her way with flowers."

1667: Milton P.L. iv. 763 "Here Love his golden shafts imploies, here lights His constant Lamp, and waves his purple wings."

1805: Scott Last Minstr. iii. ii, "In peace, Love tunes the shepherd's reed; In war, he mounts the warrior's steed."

1868: E. FitzGerald tr. Omar cviii. (1899) 103 "Ah Love! could you and I with Fate conspire."

love, n. 1
b. with pl. A Cupid; one of the multitude of nameless gods of love imagined by mythologists; a figure or representation of the god of love.

1594: Spenser Amoretti xvi, "Legions of loves with little wings did fly."

1663: Cowley Acme & Septimius, "All around The little Loves, that waited by, Bow'd, and bless'd the Augury."

1731: Swift Strephon & Chloe Wks. 1755 IV. i. 150 "The smiling Cyprian goddess brings Her infant loves with purple wings."

?1793: Coleridge Autumn. Evening 49-50 "A thousand Loves around her forehead fly; A thousand Loves sit melting in her eye."

a1839: Praed Poems (1864) II. 63 "Where'er her step in beauty moves, Around her fly a thousand loves."

love, n. 1
6. The animal instinct between the sexes, and its gratification.

c1375: Sc. Leg. Saints xxxvii. (Vincencius) 13 "Fals erroure, & lufe vnclene, & warldis dout als."

1387: Trevisa Higden (Rolls) V. 185 "A ȝongelynge..þat hadde obleged hym self to the devel for þe love of a wenche."

c1560: A. Scott Poems (S.T.S.) vi. 27 "A leddy als, for luf, to tak Ane propir page, hir tyme to pass."

1567: Satir. Poems Reform. iv. 28 "Hir licherous luife, quhilk kindlit ouer hait."

1611: Bible Prov. vii. 18 "Come, let vs take our fill of loue vntill the morning."

1697: Dryden Virg. Georg. iii. 102 "Six Seasons use; but then release the Cow, Unfit for Love, and for the lab'ring Plough."

love, n. 1
7. Phrases (chiefly with prepositions).

love, n. 1
a. for the love of: for the sake of, on account of. Also for my (our, etc.) love = for my (our, etc.) sake. for the love of Mike: for goodness' sake! (a colloq. exclamation of exasperation or surprise, with no notion of the literal sense; prob. f. Mike n. 4). Now only where some notion of the literal sense is implied (chiefly in adjurations); in early use often merely idiomatic, = L. causa, gratia. In OE. the n. was often pl.

c888: K. Ælfred Boeth. xxii. 2 "Ic wille [þe oðewan] forlustlice for þinum lufum [L. tui causa libenter]."

971: Blickl. Hom. 23 "Eal þis he þrowode for ure lufan."

c1200: Vices & Virtues (1888) 7 "Alle ðe ðis isieð..i bidde and warni, for ðe luue of gode..þat ȝie hatien..ðes awerȝhede senne."

a1300: Cursor M. 14683 "Forþ in dedes gode... We wil noght stan þe, parfai! But..for þe luue o þi missau."

c1375: Sc. Leg. Saints xxix. (Placidas) 163 "Sa hyme, for þe luf of me, þat in my nam he baptis þe."

1470-85: Malory Arthur xiii. xvi, "We shalle destroye alle the knyghtes of kyng Arthurs..for the loue of syr Galahad."

a1548: Hall Chron., Hen. V 62 "Required the Englishe lordes for the love of God that the truce might continue."

1587: Ianes in Hakluyt Voy. (1600) III. 112 "The Sauages came to the Island..and tore the two vpper strakes, and carried them away onely for the loue of the yron in the boords."

1588: Shakes. L.L.L. v. ii. 850 "Impose some seruice on me for thy loue."

1601: Twel. N. ii. iii. 92 "For the loue o God, peace."

1710: Swift Jrnl. to Stella 8 Dec., "I begged Mr. Harley, for the love of God, to take some care about it."

1859: Tennyson Vivien 410 "A Table Round, That was to be, for love of God and man And noble deeds, the flower of all the world."

1922: Joyce Ulysses 763 "O move over your big carcass out of that for the love of Mike listen to him."

1925: T. Dreiser Amer. Trag. (1926) I. i. ix. 57 "For de love o' Mike, will you listen to dat, now."

1934: J. Brophy Waterfront i. 14 "For the love of mike..shut those blasted windows."

1935: W. D. Hubbard Thousandth Frog i. 7 "Dick could not repress an exclamation of astonishment. `For the love of Mike. Look at them.'"

1941: Penguin New Writing VIII. 91 "Well, for the luvva Mike!"

1942: R.A.F. Jrnl. 3 Oct. 11 "Tired? Well for the love of mike! What about me?"

1957: A. MacNab Bulls of Iberia xv. 181 "For the love of Mike, let's hope he's brave."

love, n. 1
b. for or of all (the) loves, upon all loves, of all love: a phrase of strong adjuration or entreaty. Similarly, for love's sake. Obs.

c1400: Sowdone Bab. 1587 "Sir, for alle loues, Lete me thy prisoneres seen."

a1425: Cursor M. 20380 (Trin.) "Whi wepestou what is þe For alle loues [earlier texts, for felaured, for felauschip,] telle now me."

1565: Cooper Thesaurus, "Amabo..Of felowshippe: of all loues: I pray the: as euer thou wilte doe me good turne."

1590: Shakes. Mids. N. ii. ii. 153 "Speake of all loues; I sound almost with feare."

1618: Ussher Lett. (1686) 64, "I do intreat you of all Love, to look over the first Edition."

1620: Middleton Chaste Maid iii. i. 31 "O sweet Father, for Loues sake pittie me."

1624: Bp. R. Montagu Immed. Addr. 185 "She..intreateth him that was worshipped vpon the Altar, of all loves, mercies, and works of wonder, to restore her vnto her health."

c1646: in 2nd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. 87/1 "[10l.] which I desire you of all love to pay upon sight of this my letter."

1655: J. S. Phillis of Scyros iii. iv. 63 "For loves sake, doe not press me to relate So long a story now."

1829: Whewell in Life (1881) 133 "Beg her of all love to establish herself in a more collegiate part of Cambridge."

love, n. 1
c. for love or money: at any price, by any means. (Used in negative contexts.)

[971: Blickl. Hom. 43 "Ne for feo, ne for nanes mannes lufon."

13..: Coer de L. 1476 "Neythyr for love, neyther for eye."

1377: Langl. P. Pl. B. i. 101 "And neuer leue hem for loue ne for lacchyng of syluer."]

1590: C. S. Right Relig. 18 "Then should not men eyther for loue or money haue pardons."

1609: Dekker Guls Horne-bk. vi. 30 "If you can (either for loue or money) prouide your selfe a lodging by the water side."

1712: Swift Jrnl. to Stella 7 Aug., "No more ghosts now for love or money."

1837: Sir F. Palgrave Merch. & Friar i. (1844) 18 "Any person who, for love or money, might be induced to take the letter in his charge."

1869: March Gram. Anglo-Saxon Pref. iv, "He let me..use..Anglo-Saxon texts not elsewhere to be had for love or money."

love, n. 1
d. in love (with): enamoured (of), imbued with love (for); transf. very fond (of) or much addicted (to). [Cf. F. `Estre en amour, said of birds that bill, tread, or breed' (Cotgr.).]

1508: Dunbar Tua mariit wemen 191 "He is for ladyis in luf a right lusty schadow."

1577: B. Googe Heresbach's Husb. (1586) 5 "He would talke..of the stories of the Scripture, so sweetely..as I was woonderfully in loue with him."

1581: G. Pettie Guazzo's Civ. Conv. iii. (1586) 140 "A woman cannot possibly doe any thing yt may make her husband more in love with her, then to play the good huswife."

1591: Shakes. Two Gent. ii. i. 87, "I was in loue with my bed."

1664: Butler Hud. ii. i. 267 "Quoth she, Y' have almost made m' in Love With that which did my pity move."

1690: Locke Hum. Und. iv. xvii. 24 "He that believes, without having any reason for believing, may be in love with his own fancies."

1727: Gay Begg. Op. i. x. (1729) 14 "What, is the fool in love in earnest then?"

1828: Macaulay Ess., Hallam's Const. Hist., "Its conduct, we are told, made the excellent Falkland in love with the very name of Parliament."

1881: L. B. Walford Dick Netherby xvii. 213 "He was not himself in love."

1896: A. E. Housman Shropsh. Lad xviii, "Oh, when I was in love with you, Then I was clean and brave."

love, n. 1
h. in the love of: beloved by. Obs. rare.

1631: Weever Anc. Funeral Mon. 417 "He also departed this world, in the loue of all good men."

love, n. 1
8. In various proverbs and proverbial phrases.

love, n. 1
a. Proverbs.

c1470: Henryson Mor. Fab. iii. xvii. in Anglia IX. 357 "The prouerbe sayis `als gude luif cummis as gais'."

1474: Caxton Chesse iii. iii, "Herof men say a comyn proverbe in englond, that loue lasteth as longe as the money endurith."

1596: Shakes. Merch. V. ii. vi. 36 "Loue is blinde."

1611: Cotgr. s.v. Amour, "Loue, and the Cough cannot be hidden."

a1618: Raleigh Rem. (1664) 35 "Love needs no teaching."

love, n. 1
e. out of love (with): the opposite of in love (with); disgusted (with).

1581: G. Pettie tr. Guazzo's Civ. Conv. i. (1586) 10 "Hee seemeth either too farre in loue with himselfe, or to farre out of loue with others."

1591: Shakes. Two Gent. iv. iv. 210, "I should haue scratch'd out your vnseeing eyes, To make my Master out of loue with thee."

1603: Meas. for M. iii. i. 174, "I am so out of loue with life."

1722: De Foe Relig. Courtsh. i. i. (1840) 4 "What's the matter, that you are so out of love with the world all on a sudden?"

1754: Richardson Grandison III. xi. 83 "Lord W.'s animosity to my father made him out of love with his name."

love, n. 1
f. to fall (be taken or caught) in love: to become enamoured; transf. to become very fond of, dote upon. Const. with. Also, to fall, be brought into love's dance. Cf. F. tomber en amour (15th c. in Littré).

1423: Jas. I Kingis Q. xlv, "So ferre I-fallyng Into lufis dance."

1530:-1866: [see fall v. 38b].

c1530: Hickscorner (Manly) 204 "Than in-to loves daunce we were brought."

1568: Grafton Chron. I. 37 "Locryne fell in great phancy and love with a faire Damosell."

1579: Lyly Euphues (Arb.) 345 "Of which water who so drinketh, shall bee caught in Love."

1596: Spenser F.Q. iv. vi. heading, "He sees her face; doth fall in love, And soone from her depart."

1606: W. W[oodcocke] Hist. Ivstine xliii. 134 "With the pleasantnesse of which, they were so taken in loue, that [etc.]."

1887: Rider Haggard Jess iv, "John Niel was no chicken, nor very likely to fall in love with the first pretty face he met."

love, n. 1
g. to make love: to pay amorous attention; now more usually, to copulate. [After F. faire l'amour or It. far l'amore.] Const. to.

1580: Lyly Euphues (Arb.) 290 "A Phrase now there is which belongeth to your Shoppe boorde, that is, to make loue."

1590: Shakes. Mids. N. i. i. 107 "Demetrius..Made loue to Nedars daughter."

1602: Ham. v. ii. 57 "Why, man, they did make loue to this imployment."

1605: Macb. iii. i. 124 "Thence it is That I to your assistance doe make loue."

1605: Lear v. iii. 88 "If you will marry, make your loues to me."

1663: Cowley Hymn to Light ii, "Thou golden Shower of a true Jove! Who does in thee descend, and Heav'n to Earth make love!"

1712: Addison Spect. No. 517 2 "The Widow Lady whom he had made love to."

1768: Sterne Sent. Journ. (1775) I. 31 (Remise Door) "You have been making love to me all this while."

a1845: Hood Poems (1846) I. 213 "Oh there's nothing in life like making love."

1860: Sat. Rev. IX. 306 "How often..do we make love to the charms of cousins and avuncular expectations."

1950: M. Peake Gormenghast xxix. 173 "One of the Carvers made love to her and she had a baby."

1966: Auden About House 15 "Stocktaking, horseplay, worship, making love."

1967: B. Wright tr. Queneau's Between Blue & Blue xiv. 151 "When you make love on a bunk,..the man has to bump his head."

1971: Daily Tel. 15 Jan. 17/1 "Couples who make love frequently are more likely to have sons than those who do so less often."

love, n. 1
9. a. A beloved person: esp. a sweetheart; chiefly applied to a female person, but sometimes to a male. (Often used as a term of endearing address.)

a1225: Leg. Kath. 1531 "He is mi lif & mi luue."

c1369: Chaucer Bk. Duchesse 91 "And wher my lord, my love, be deed?"

1377: Langl. P. Pl. B. iv. 49 "Rose Reginoldes loue [text A lemmon]."

c1386: Chaucer Prol. 672 "Ful loude he song `Com hider, love, to me'."

14..: Sir Beues 2019 (MS. M.) "Beuys, loue dere, Ryde nat fro me in no manere!"

1470-85: Malory Arthur vii. xxxv. 269 "He is my fyrst loue and he shal be the laste."

a1592: Marlowe Pass. Sheph. to his Love, "Liue with me and be my Loue."

1596: Shakes. Merch. V. iv. i. 277 "Whether Bassanio had not once a Loue."

1600: Dr. Dodypoll iii. v. in Bullen Old Plays III. 135 "Why, love? doubt you that?"

Ibid. 136 "Thou art growne passing strange, my love."

c1606: Wither Love Sonn. iii. in Descr. Love (1638) C4 "In Summer-time to Medley My love and I would goe."

1767: Sir W. Jones Seven Fountains Poems (1777) 37 "Told to their smiling loves their amorous tales."

1818: Scott `Old Song' in Br. Lamm. xxix, "It is best to be off wi' the old love, Before you be on wi' the new."

a1834: Moore Yng. May Moon 1 "The young May moon is beaming, love."

1860: C. Patmore Faithful for ever iii. ii. 180 "And there's another thing, my Love, I wish you'd show you don't approve."

1895: A. W. Pinero Second Mrs. Tanqueray iii. 104 "Paula love, I fancied you and Aubrey were a little more friendly."

1900: Barrie Tommy & Grizel xxv. 303 "There are poor dogs of men..who open their letters from their loves, knowing exactly what will be in them."

1966: New Yorker 29 Jan. 22/3 "`Sit over here, love,' he said as another actress entered."

1967: Listener 5 Oct. 429/3 "Lovely, loves, I loved it. And Alison here was hysterical, weren't you, Alison?"

1975: J. Symons Three Pipe Problem iii. 25 "But Sher. love, it was only a read-through. You don't expect me to act."

love, n. 1
b. labour of love: work undertaken either from fondness for the work itself, or from desire to benefit persons whom one loves. [An allusion to 1 Thess. i. 3, `Your worke of faith and labour of loue', and Heb. vi. 10.]

1673: Lady's Call. ii. iii. 12 "Women..founded Hospitals, and yet with a labor of love, as the Apostle styles it, Heb. vi. 10, disdain'd not somtimes to serve in them."

1853: Kingsley Hypatia ix, "The humble stock phrases in which they talked of their labours of love."

1878: Black Goldsmith xiv. 131 "During this labour of love [the composition of the Deserted Village]."

love, n. 1
c. love in a cottage: a euphemistic expression for marriage with insufficient means.

1812: M. Edgeworth Absentee iv, "Lady Clonbrony had not..the slightest notion how anybody..could prefer, to a good house..and a proper establishment, what is called love in a cottage."

[1820: Keats Lamia ii. i, "Love in a hut, with water and a crust, Is—Love, forgive us!—cinders, ashes, dust."]

1894: H. H. Gardener Unoff. Patriot 239 "Here's more love in a cottage business for you."

love, n. 1
d. there's no love lost between them: an ambiguous phrase, which has been employed with two contrary implications.

love, n. 1
(a) Their affection is mutual. Obs.

c1640: R. Davenport Surv. Sci. Wks. (Bullen 1890) 327 "Oh my sweete! Sure there is no loue lost when you two meete."

16..: Children in Wood ii. in Percy Reliq. (1765) III. 172 "No love between these two was lost, Each was to other kinde."

1696: M. Henry Life P. Henry (1699) 8 "Dr. Busby..took a particular Kindness to him,..and there was no Love lost betwixt them."

1706: Motteux Quix. ii. xxxiii. (1749) III. 266, "I love him well, and there's no love lost between us."

1749: Smollett Gil Blas (1797) III. 233, "I have a friendship for you..And I can assure thee, child (said I), there is no love lost [Fr. que tu n'aimes pas un ingrat]."

1773: Goldsm. Stoops to Conq. iv, "As for murmurs, mother, we grumble a little now and then, to be sure. But there's no love lost between us."

1823: Lamb Elia Ser. ii. New Year's Coming of Age, "There was no love lost for that matter."

1824: N. Drake Noontide Leisure II. 54 "Give me your hand..and let me tell you..there is no love lost between us."

love, n. 1
(b) Now always: They have no love for each other.

?1622: J. Taylor (Water-P.) Trav. Twelve-pence Wks. (1630) i. 71 "They loue me not, which makes 'em quickly spend me. But there's no great loue lost 'twixt them and mee, We keepe asunder and so best agree."

1748: Richardson Clarissa (1768) III. 134 "He must needs say, there was no love lost between some of my family and him; but he had not deserved of them what they had of him."

1858: Thackeray Virgin. xvii. I. 134 "There was not a great deal of love lost between Will and his half-sister."

1866: Howells Venet. Life 121 "Americans do not like these people and I believe there is no love lost on the other side."

1889: T. A. Trollope What I remember III. 91 "Between Italian and French radicals there is really no love lost."

love, n. 1
10. a. for love: without stakes, for nothing; applied to the practice of playing a competitive game for the pleasure of playing.

1678: Butler Hud. iii. i. 1007 "For these at Beste and L'Ombre [you] wooe, And play for love and money too."

1813: Sporting Mag. XLI. 296 "A match of..single-stick, was played..for what is technically termed Love and a Belly-full."

1821: Lamb Elia Ser. i. New Year's Eve, "I play over again for love, as the gamesters phrase it, games for which I once paid so dear."

1844: Dickens Mart. Chuz. xxxii, "Mrs. Todgers..proposed that..they should play for `love'."

love, n. 1
b. transf. of animals.

1697: Dryden Æneid viii. 288 "One Heifar who had heard her Love complain, Roar'd from the Cave."

1792: Wolcot (P. Pindar) Wks. III. 259 "Her feather'd Partner..Now for his loves pursues his airy way, And now with food returns."

love, n. 1
c. In reference to illicit relations: A paramour; said of both men and women. Obs.

c1400: Mandeville (1839) xiv. 154 "And whan thai wil have ony companye of man..than thei have Loves, that usen hem."

1462: Paston Lett. II. 98 "He bydeth but a tyme that he myght gete a summe of money to geders..and to gone ther with a love of his sojornyng as yette in Hokehold."

1588: M. Kyffin tr. Terence's Andria i. iii. Civb, "Whether she be wife to Pamphilus, or but his loue, I knowe not."

1598: Shakes. Merry W. iii. v. 79 "To serch his house for his wiues Loue."

1613: Purchas Pilgrimage (1614) 768 "They haue one wife, many loues."

love, n. 1
d. gen. The object of love; the beloved (of..).

1734: Pope Ess. Man iv. 190 "The lover and the love of human-kind."

1754: Chatham Lett. Nephew iv. 28 "Make yourself the love and admiration of the world."

1818: Byron Ch. Har. iv. clxx, "In the dust The fair-hair'd Daughter of the Isles is laid, The love of millions!"

love, n. 1
e. A charming or delightful person or thing; a `duck'. colloq.

1814: Jane Austen Lett. (1884) II. 241 "The garden is quite a love."

1831: Lady Granville Let. 28 Feb., "A pretty, tiny daughter, whom my girls think a love."

1841: S. Warren Ten Thous. a-year II. 75 "He's a love of a man, pa, isn't he?"

1844: L. Hunt Blue-Stocking Revels i. 26 Poems 103 "Such doves of Petitions, and loves of sweet Pray'rs."

1864: W. H. Ainsworth John Law Prol. vi. (1881) 35 "Nankin has the tiniest teacups you ever beheld—perfect loves!"

1889: `Rolf Boldrewood' Robbery under Arms xxiv, "What a love of a chain!"

love, n. 1
f. love in disguise: (see quots.).

1877: E. S. Dallas Kettner's Bk. of Table 282 "Love in disguise is a calf's heart stuffed, then surrounded with forcemeat, next rolled in vermicelli, lastly deposited in a baking dish..and sent to the oven."

1958: W. Bickel tr. Hering's Dict. Cookery 451 "Love in disguise, calf's heart, soaked in water, larded, boiled until tender, dried, coated with veal forcemeat, rolled in crushed raw noodles, roasted in butter in oven and basted frequently."

love, n. 1
a. simple attributive, as love-adept, -adventure, -allegory, -ballad, -bed, -bite, -bond, -charm, -dance, -desire, -discourse, -ditty, -dream, -drug, -duel, -duet, -elegy, -eye, -fit, -flight, -game, -gift, -glance, -god, intrigue, -laughing, -light, -look, -lore, -lyric, -madness, -magic, -marriage, -melancholy, -mourning, -note, -ode, -passion, -plot, -poem, -poet, -poetry, -prate, -quarrel, -rime, -secret, -service, -shaft, -sonnet, -speech, -spring, -talk, -talking, -tear, -theme, -thought, -toy, -trick, -verse, -word, etc.

1821: Shelley Prometh. Unb. i. i. 738 "Dreaming like a *love-adept."

1711: Shaftesbury Charac. (1737) I. 271 "In relation to common amours and *love-adventures."

1933: R. Tuve Seasons & Months iv. 189 "All this is to be found in the *love-allegory of the Golden Targe."

1565: Cooper Thesaurus s.v. Amor, "Componere amores..To make *loue balades."

1594: Shakes. Rich. III, iii. vii. 72 "He is not lulling on a lewd *Loue-Bed."

1934: Dylan Thomas 18 Poems 19 "Invisible, your clocking tides Break on the lovebeds of the weeds."

a1963: S. Plath Crossing Water (1971) 33 "Musky as a lovebed the morning after."

1749: J. Cleland Mem. Woman Pleasure II. 63 "Then the turtle-billing kisses, and the poignant painless *love-bites."

1903: H. Ellis Stud. Psychol. Sex III. 71 "We may find references to love-bites in the literature of ancient as well as of modern times... In the Indian Kama Sutra of Vatsyayana a chapter is devoted to this subject."

1972: Daily Tel. 29 Jan. 3/1 "Once I saw her sitting in class with a love bite on her neck."

1951: L. MacNeice tr. Goethe's Faust ii. v. 295 "Rapture which yearns ever, *Love-bond which burns ever."

1889: Cent. Dict., "*Love-charm."

1935: Amer. Speech X. 119/2 "Certain generic epithets..have become so conventionalized that they too tell their tales... Love thief, love nest, love lure, love charm, love potion."

1948: B. G. M. Sundkler Bantu Prophets S. Afr. vi. 222 "Various Native `Chemist' shops sell..love-charms."

1911: J. A. Thomson Biol. Seasons II. 233 "The long larval period of two or three years in the water, and the short aerial *love-dance lasting for an evening or two."

1934: Discovery Nov. 309/1 "For a few weeks they [sc. the termites] revive their ancestral free-living life in a mad lovedance."

1628: Ford Lover's Mel. iv. iii, "The Incense of my *loue-desires are flam'd Vpon an Altar of more constant proofe."

1591: Shakes. Two Gent. ii. iv. 126, "I know you ioy not in a *Loue-discourse."

a1711: Ken Christophil Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 476, "I..Who for Two thousand Years, or rather more, Have sung the like *Love-ditties o're and o're."

1808: Scott Marm. i. vii, "And frame love-ditties passing rare."

a1400: Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS. 449/20 "Þou make in me þi *loue-dreem."

1959: Chambers's Dict. Suppl., "*Love-drug, dagga."

1969: Rolling Stone 17 May 3/4 "The new `love drug', MDA (3,4-methylenedioxy-phenyl-iso-propylamine)."

1880: `Mark Twain' Tramp Abroad 58 "This was not a *love duel, but a `satisfaction' affair."

1932: R. Campbell Taurine Provence ii. 44 "The great `Lou Pouvenco'..bore a small fortune between his horns, until he was killed in a love-duel by a younger rival."

1946: Essays & Stud. XXXI. 105 "Anyone who takes the trouble to get the score of Verdi's Otello, and compare the *love-duet at the end of the first act, in particular Otello's solo passages, with the last but two and last but one paragraphs of the Anna Livia episode, will discover some very interesting similarities in phrasing."

1975: Times 12 Feb. 23/6 "The dance of Discord and War..has to be reconciled by the love duet."

1616-61: B. Holyday Persius 295 "Weak *Love-elegies, such as Rome's nobles speak."

c1400: Destr. Troy 3128 "Lokyng on lenght with a *loue ee."

1582: Stanyhurst Æneis iv. (Arb.) 112 "Or fro this hoat *looue fits I shal bee shortlye retrayted."

1679: J. Goodman Penitent Pardoned ii. i. (1713) 150 "Taken with an agony of mind, or a kind of love-fit."

1821: Byron Sardan. iii. i. 401 "Again the love-fit's on him."

1908: E. J. Banfield Confessions of Beachcomber i. vii. 232 "The *love flight of the green and gold butterfly."

1936: Brit. Birds XXIX. 307 "The love-flights of many species depend on a subtle change in the character of the wing-beat, most marked perhaps in the waders."

1925: F. Harris My Life & Loves I. 182, "I waited a little while and then began the *love game."

1973: B. Freemantle Goodbye to Old Friend iv. 54 "He wondered if Anne were playing some odd kind of love game."

1645: Rutherford Tryal & Tri. Faith (1845) 379 "Christ is God's highest *love-gift."

1876: Browning Cenciaja 279 "The simpleton must ostentatiously Display a ring, the Cardinal's love-gift."

1821: Keats Lamia i. 102 "The *love-glances of unlovely eyes."

c1600: Shakes. Sonn. cliv, "The little *Loue-God lying once asleepe."

1887: Bowen Virg. Æneid i. 662 "She addresses the Love-god plumed for the flight."

1684: Otway Atheist ii. i. Wks. 1728 I. 34 "Your *Love-Intreagues are not so closely manag'd, but that [etc.]."

13..: Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1777 "With *luf-laȝyng [= laughing] a lyt."

1833: Coleridge Song, `She is not Fair' 10, "I cease not to behold The *love-light in her eye."

1839: Bailey Festus (1852) 513 "Her bright heart With lovelight glowed."

1637: S. Rutherford Let. 10 June (1891) clxxv. 331 "Any little communion with Him [sc. Christ], one of His *love-looks, should be my begun heaven."

1904: Windsor Mag. June 305/2 "Do you think I don't know a love-look when I see it?"

1754: H. Walpole Lett. (1846) III. 64 "That living academy of *love-lore, my Lady Vane."

1856: National Rev. III. 372 "The *love-lyric..is probably the most intense expression of primitive passion."

1962: L. Durrell Spirit of Place (1969) 19 "He had just published a sequence of love-lyrics called Kingcup."

1974: P. Dickinson Poison Oracle ii. 44 "You get a basic story, but inside it you get dramatic sections and love lyrics."

1884: Harper's Mag. Dec. 134/1 "*Love-madness is nothing new."

1949: M. Mead Male & Female iii. 56 "How the..human sacrifice or *love-magic fitted into the whole."

1850: Thackeray Pendennis II. xxi. 209 "Look at your *love-marriages... The love-match people are the most notorious of all for quarrelling afterwards."

1973: Archivum Linguisticum IV. 93 "A love-marriage (as opposed to an arranged marriage)."

1621: Burton Anat. Mel. iii, "*Love Melancholy."

a1290: S. Eustace 111 in Horstm. Altengl. Leg. (1881) 213 "Ssore i-bounden..wiþ *loue mourninge Of Crist þat alle þinge shop."

1840: Mrs. Norton Dream etc. 205 "The borrowed *love-notes of thy echoing lyre."

1689: Prior Ep. Fleetwood Shephard 50 "Pigs might squeak *love-odes, dogs bark satire."

1583: T. Watson Poems To Rdr. (Arb.) 27 "In respect of my trauaile in penning these *loue-passions."

1670: Dryden 2nd Pt. Conq. Granada i. ii, "I'll your *love-plot quickly countermine."

1847: Tennyson Princess iv. 102 "And this A mere *love-poem."

1923: J. M. Murry Pencillings 224 "*Love poets are seldom the singers of happiness in love."

1965: New Statesman 16 July 87/2 "Donne..has a title to be our greatest love poet."

1865: Reader 20 May 561/2 "Claim passionate tenderness as especially feminine, and the inquiry is made whether all the best *love-poetry in existence..has not been written by men."

1872: Geo. Eliot Middlem. III. v. xlvii. 75 "Verifying in his own experience that higher love-poetry which had charmed his fancy."

1971: Guardian 14 July 11/2 "The best of his [sc. Attlee's] poems are political ballads... The others (not so good) run even to love poetry."

1600: Shakes. A.Y.L. iv. i. 206 "You haue simply misus'd our sexe in your *loue-prate."

1671: Milton Samson 1008 "*Love-quarrels oft in pleasing concord end."

1588: Shakes. L.L.L. iii. i. 183 "Don Cupid, Regent of *Loue-rimes."

1754: Richardson Grandison I. xxxvii. 265 "And has he, can he have, so many *Love-secrets, and yet..not let them transpire to such a sister?"

1923: R. Graves Feather Bed 25 "This meek exnovice rifled Of her love-secrets?"

1561: T. Hoby tr. Castiglione's Courtyer iii. (1577) Nvb, "With what sober mode they shewe fauor to who so is in their *loue seruice."

1590: Shakes. Mids. N. ii. i. 159 "Cupid..loos'd his *loue-shaft smartly from his bow."

1870: D. G. Rossetti Let. 26 Feb. (1965) II. 804 "The *love-sonnets are the preponderant portion."

1958: Blunden War Poets ii. 15 "In the pre-war poems of Brooke something like a premonition can be seen recurring. A love-sonnet dated 1909 powerfully includes it."

a1225: Ancr. R. 204 "Mid tollinde wordes, oðer mid *luue speche."

a1310: in Wright Lyric P. 70 "Jhesu..Thy *love sprenges tacheth me."

1590: Shakes. Com. Err. iii. ii. 3 "Shall Antipholus Euen in the spring of Loue, thy Loue-springs rot?"

1599: Hen. V, v. ii. 101 "Tearmes, Such as will..pleade his *Loue-suit to her gentle heart."

1862: G. Meredith Mod. Love xxxiii. 65 "My wife, read this! Strange *love talk, is it not?"

1968: `N. Blake' Private Wound v. 69 "She used none of the experienced woman's verbal tricks to arouse me, none of the shameless, titillating, love-talk."

13..: Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 927, "I hope þat may hym here Schal lerne of *luf-talkyng."

a1310: in Wright Lyric P. 70 "Of *love teres he weop a flod."

1938: R. Graves Coll. Poems p. xxi, "With the *love-theme went the old fear-theme, sharpened rather than blunted by the experiences of peace."

1957: Manvell & Huntley Techniques Film Music i. 21 "Examples of original music by Griffith and Briel included a prominent love-theme (for the Little Colonel and Elsie Stoneman)."

1601: Shakes. Twel. N. i. i. 41 "*Loue-thoughts lye rich, when canopy'd with bowres."

a1586: Sidney Arcadia iii. (1598) 390 "These are your *loue-toyes, which still are spent In lawlesse games."

1647: Trapp Comm. Col. iv. 16 "Other good books must be read..yet not idle pamphlets, and love-toies."

1590: T. Watson Eglogue Death Sir F. Walsingham 266 "Let them suppose sweete Musicke out of vse, and wanton *louetricks to be foolish toies."

1611: Cotgr., "Amourettes, loue-trickes."

1826: Syd. Smith Wks. (1859) II. 90/2 "All the various love-tricks of attempting to appear indifferent."

a1708: Walsh in Dryden Misc. (1727) IV. 335 "Petrarch..being by much the most famous of all the Moderns who have written *Love-Verses."

a1240: Ureisun in Cott. Hom. 201 "Hwi ne con ich wowen þe wið swete *luue wordes."

a1651: Calderwood Hist. Kirk (1843) II. 352 "Manie love words she useth to Bothwell in this letter."

1883: Longm. Mag. Aug. 368 "Why did her love-words echo in his ear?"

love, n. 1
15. Obvious combinations.

love, n. 1
b. In various competitive games of skill, e.g. whist, football, tennis, racquets: No score, nothing; meaning that the party said `to be love' has scored no points in the game then in progress. love all: no score on either side.

1742: Hoyle Whist i. 13 "If your Adversary is 6 or 7 Love, and you are to lead."

1780: Gentl. Mag. L. 322/2 "We are not told how, or by what means Six love comes to mean Six to nothing."

1797: Encycl. Brit. (ed. 3) XVIII. 380/2 "As the games are won, so they are marked and called; as one game love, two games to one, &c."

1885: Pall Mall G. 2 Mar. 10/2 "In the Rugby game Northampton beat Coventry by a try to love."

1898: Encycl. Sport II. 242/1 "The marker's..duty is to call the game..from the start at `love all'... `Love', in the game of rackets, as in other games, signifies nothing."

love, n. 1
c. Applied attrib. to a game or set of games in which there is nothing scored on one side.

1833: T. Hook Parson's Dau. (1847) 57 "Can't make a hazard..and has lost two love games."

1878: J. Marshall Ann. Tennis 158 "Love-set, a set in which one player wins six consecutive games; or, in case of an advantage-set, seven consecutive games."

1884: Pall Mall G. 25 Apr. 3/2 "In the two first days' play the whole of the heats were love victories."

love, n. 1
11. A game of chance in which one player holds up a certain number of fingers, and the other, without seeing, guesses their number. = mora. Obs.

1585: Higgins Junius' Nomenclator 297/2 "Micare digitis,..a play vsed in Italy,..it is called there..the play of loue."

1611: Cotgr., "Mourre, the play of loue."

1653: Urquhart Rabelais i. xxii. 94 "There he played..At love [orig. a la mourre]."

1725: Bailey Erasm. Colloq. (1733) 205 "The Countrymens Play of holding up our Fingers (dimicatione digitorum, i.e. the Play of Love)."

love, n. 1
12. A variant of the game of euchre.

1886: Euchre 41 "Slam, Love, or Skunk."

love, n. 1
13. `A kind of thin silk stuff' (J.), formerly used when in mourning; a border of this. Orig. love-hood. Obs. (Cf. love-ribbon in 16 below.)

1663: Boyle Exper. Colours iii. ix. (1664) 198 "Such a kind of Transparency, as that of a Sive, a piece of Cyprus, or a Love-Hood."

1747: Mrs. Delany Let. to Mrs. Dewes in Life after three months black silk is worn with love hood."

1751: Lond. Daily Advertiser 21 Dec. (N. & Q. 1st Ser. X. 206) "A black velvet cloak with a love coarsely run round it."

1825-9: Mrs. Sherwood Lady of Manor II. x. 63 "He was dressed in white, having a sash of black love."

love, n. 1
14. a. An old name for Traveller's Joy or Virgin's Bower, Clematis Vitalba; also love-bind (see 16b).

love, n. 1
b. (See quot. 1874.)

1640: Parkinson Theat. Bot. 384 "In English of most country people where it groweth [called] Honestie; and the Gentlewomen call it Love, but Gerard coyned that name of the Travelours joy."

1657: S. Purchas Pol. Flying-Ins. i. xv. 95 "Bees gather of these flowers following..In July..Love."

1874: Treas. Bot. Suppl., "Love, a name used in Tasmania for Comesperma volubile."

love, n. 1
1. a. That disposition or state of feeling with regard to a person which (arising from recognition of attractive qualities, from instincts of natural relationship, or from sympathy) manifests itself in solicitude for the welfare of the object, and usually also in delight in his or her presence and desire for his or her approval; warm affection, attachment. Const. of, for, to, towards.

c825: Vesp. Psalter cviii. 5 "Settun wið me yfel fore godum & laeððu fore lufan minre."

c1000: Ags. Gosp. John xv. 13 "Næfð nan man maran lufe þonne ðeos ys þæt hwa sylle his lif for his freondum."

c1250: Gen. & Ex. 8 "And to alle cristenei men beren pais and luue bi-twen."

a1300: Cursor M. 20300 "Vre leuedi wep, saint iohan alsua, Treu luue was omang þam tua."

1387: Trevisa Higden (Rolls) I. 155 "Wommen moste be ouercome with fairenesse and loue, and nouȝt wiþ sternesse and drede."

c1400: Mandeville (Roxb.) Pref. 2 "What lufe he had til his sugets."

1470-85: Malory Arthur i. viii. 44 "He wende that al the kynges & knyghtes had come for grete loue and to haue done hym worship at his feste."

1535: Coverdale 2 Sam. i. 26 "Thy loue hath bene more speciall vnto me, then the loue of wemen."

1588: Shakes. L.L.L. v. ii. 415 "My loue to thee is sound sans cracke or flaw."

1597: Morley Introd. Mus. Pref., "Adiuring me by the loue of my contrie."

1611: Bible Dan. i. 9 "God had brought Daniel into fauour and tender loue with the Prince of the Eunuches."

1765: Cowper in Southey Life & Wks. (1835) I. 155 "My heart was full of love to all the congregation."

1818: Cruise Digest (ed. 2) II. 346 "The natural love which Thomas Kirby bore to his brother."

1836: W. Irving Astoria I. 279 "His dominant spirit, and his love for the white men, were evinced in his latest breath."

1871: Morley Voltaire (1886) 2 "They should prove their love of him whom they had not seen, by love of their brothers whom they had seen."

love, n. 1
(lʌv)Forms: 1 lufu, (lufo), 2-4 luve, 3 lou, 4, 6 loove, 5 louf, loof, 4-5 lof, lofe, 5 luf, lufue, (Sc. 4-6 luf(e, luff, 5, 8 luffe, 6 luif(e, 6, 8 luve, 6 luwe, luyf, luiff, lwiff, loif), 3-love.[OE. lufu str. fem. (also declined weak) = OHG. luba:—Teut. type *luƀâ, not found elsewhere, though Goth. has (brôþru-)lubô wk. fem., love, and lubains (stem -aini-) str. fem., hope; f. the weak-grade of the Teut. root *leuƀ-: lauƀ-: luƀ-:—OAryan *leubh-: loubh-: lubh-. Other derivatives of the wk.-grade are OS. lubig loving, and the Com. Teut. *luƀo-m, *loƀo-m lof and its derivative *loƀôjan love v. 2; also OHG. gilob precious. Cognates belonging to the other grades of the root (1) from the eu grade, Com. Teut. *liuƀo- lief a., and its derivatives OHG. liobôn (MHG., mod.G. lieben), Du. lieven (obs., superseded by liefhebben lit. `to have dear'), OE. léofian, MDu. lieven, OHG. *liubên (MHG. lieben) to be dear or agreeable, OHG. liuben (MHG. lieben) to endear, to show kindness; MDu., Du. liefde fem., love; OHG. liubî wk. fem., liuba str. fem. (MHG. liebe), MDu. lieve fem., love; (2) from the au grade, the Teut. types *lauƀâ, *galauƀon-, *galauƀjan, etc. (see leave n. 1, belief, believe v.). Outside Teut. the Aryan root is represented by L. lubet (libet) it is pleasing, lubīdo (libīdo) desire, OSl. ljubŭ dear, ljuby love, ljubiti to love, Skr. lubh to desire, lōbha masc. desire.]

love, n. 1
e. (give) my love to.., or love to..: a formula of request that the person addressed will convey the expression of the speaker's or writer's affection to a third person. Also to send one's love; love from

1630: Winthrop in New Eng. (1825) I. 378 "Commend me to all our friends. My love and blessing to your brother and sisters [etc.]."

1765: Cowper Let. to J. Hill 14 Aug., "My love to all your family."

1785: Lady Newdigate Let. May in A. E. Newdigate-Newdegate Cheverels (1898) iv. 67 "Love from all here Adieu."

1793: Let. to W. Hayley 24 Feb., "With Mary's kind love."

1837: Dickens Pickw. ix, "Love to Tuppy!"

1854: W. Collins Hide & Seek ii. iv. (1861) 183, "`I will write and comfort your mother this very afternoon ' `Give her my love', interposed Zack."

1913: W. Owen Let. 19 Oct. (1967) 202 "Love, Hopes, and Kisses from your own Wilfred."

1921: A. Huxley Let. 21 Nov. (1969) 205, "I will telephone or write about both these dates. Love from Aldous."

1949: D. Smith I capture Castle xi. 188 "Dear Cassandra, it was nice of you to write... Love from Neil."

love, n. 1
b. Viewed as an abstract quality or principle. (Sometimes personified.)

c1050: Voc. in Wr.-Wülcker 343/32 "Affectu, for hylde and lufe."

a1300: Cursor M. 99 "O reuth o loue and charite, Was neuer hir mak."

1377: Langl. P. Pl. B. i. 146 "For trewthe telleþ þat loue is triacle of heuene."

1422: tr. Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv. 135 "Humylite Engendryth lowe that destrueth envy and hatredyn."

1557: Seager Sch. Vertue 815 in Babees Bk., "Loue doth moue the mynde to mercie."

a1628: Preston Breastpl. Love (1631) 8 "Love and hatred are..the great Lords and Masters, that divide the rest of the affections between them."

1811: Coleridge 7 Lect. (1856) 70 "Love is a desire of the whole being to be united to some thing, or some being, felt necessary to its completeness."

love, n. 1
c. In particularized use: An instance of affection. Also, an act of kindness.

c1000: Prayers of Exeter Bk. iv. 115 "Wæs a cearu symle lufena to leane."

c1200: Moral Ode 314 in Trin. Coll. Hom., "Þe þe þos two luues halt and wile hes wel healde."

1595: Shakes. John iv. i. 49 "What good loue may I performe for you?"

1632: Lithgow Trav. v. 189, "I met with an English ship..whose loues I cannot easily forget."

a1853: Robertson Lect. i. (1858) 25 "The same feelings and anxieties and loves."

love, n. 1
d. In OE. (contrasted with laȝu law): Amicable settlement, as opposed to litigation. Hence, in later use, occas. rendering L. fœdus treaty, covenant. Also, under love and law; a phrase used to denote the position of being a member of a frankpledge. Obs.

a1000: Laws of Æthelred iii. c. 13 1 (Schmid) "And þar þeȝen aȝe tweȝen costas lufe oþþe laȝe and he þonne lufe ȝeceose."

1432-50: tr. Higden (Rolls) I. 99 "Oreb..the mownte of fere and of luffe [L. mons terroris et fœderis]."

Ibid. II. 347, IV. 123.

a1500: in Arnolde Chron. (1811) 90 "Yf ther bee ony persone wythin the warde that is not vnder francpledge that is to saye under loue and lawe."

love, n. 1
b. In names of plants and animals: love-and-idle(s, dial. var. of love-in-idleness (E.D.D.); love-bind, the plant Traveller's Joy (Halliwell); love-bush, the Jamaican name for dodder n. 1; love-entangle, -entangled = love-in-a-mist (a); love-grass, a grass of the genus Eragrostis: love-in-a-mist, (a) the Fennel-flower, Nigella damascena; (b) a West Indian species, Passiflora fœtida (cf. G. liebe im nebel); love-in-a-puzzle, Nigella damascena; love-in-idleness (also love-in-idle), the Heartsease, Viola tricolor; love-parrakeet, -parrot = love-bird; love-shell (see quot.); love-tree, the Judas-tree, Cercis Siliquastrum (Treas. Bot. 1866); also tree of love; love-vine, `any species of Cuscuta, dodder' (Webster, Suppl.).

1630: J. Taylor (Water-P.) Wks. ii. 134/2 "Amongst all Pot-herbes growing on the ground, Time is the least respected, I haue found..When passions are let loose without a bridle, Then precious Time is turnd to *Loue and Idle."

1814: J. Lunan Hortus Jamaicensis I. 266 "Cuscuta Americana... The negroes of Liguanea mountains call it *love-bush."

1954: Farmer's Guide (Jamaica Agric. Soc.) 582 "The common Love-bushes of Jamaica comprise about four species of Cuscuta."

1962: S. Wynter Hills of Hebron ii. 35 "Pale yellow tendrils of the `lovebush' wrapping themselves around the prickly arms of the cactus."

1847: Halliwell, "*Love-entangle, the nigella. Cornw."

1841: S. C. Hall Ireland I. 128 "Sometimes they are overgrown by weed called `*love-entangled', and the golden stone-crop."

1702: Petiver in Phil. Trans. XXIII. 1257 "What is peculiar in this *Love-grass is its having just under each spike, its stalk clammy."

1760: J. Lee Introd. Bot. App. 318 "*Love in a Mist, Passiflora."

1834: M. Howitt in Tait's Mag. I. 445/2 "I'd a noble root of love-in-a-mist."

1824: H. Phillips Flora Hist. II. 151 "*Love in a puzzle, Love in a mist,..Nigella Damascena."

1664: S. Blake Compl. Gardeners Pract. 50 "*Lowe in idle, or two faces under a hood, is a Flower that is much like Violets."

1578: Lyte Dodoens ii. ii. 149 "This floure is called..in English, Pances, *Loue in idlenes, and Hartes ease."

1590: Shakes. Mids. N. ii. i. 168 "The bolt of Cupid..fell vpon a little westerne flower; Before, milke-white; now purple with loues wound, And maidens call it, Loue in idlenesse."

1864: T. L. Phipson Utilization Minute Life vii. 155 "Other species of Cypræa known..by the English as `*Love-shells', are used as ornaments, etc."

[*Love-tree: cf. 1760: J. Lee Introd. Bot. App. 317 "Tree of Love, Cercis."]

1885: A. Brassey The Trades 325 "The long tendrils of the *love-vine rolled up into coils, which he assured us would live and grow for years, if hung on a nail indoors."APPENDED FROM ADDITIONS 1997love, n. 1

love, n. 1
Add: [16.] [a.] love handle (usu. in pl.) slang (orig. and chiefly U.S.), excess fat at the waist.

1970: Current Slang (Univ. S. Dakota) IV. iii-iv. 20 "Love handles, n. The fat on one's sides."

1981: J. Fonda Workout Bk. (1982) 52 "Something certainly happens to those saddle bags,..love handles and plain old lumps."

1989: T. Clancy Clear & Present Danger xiii. 306 "His picture was at her bedside, taken only a year before his death, working on his sailboat. No longer a young man when it had been taken, love handles at his waist, much of his hair gone, but the smile."

love, n. 2
[Of obscure origin.]

love, n. 2
One of a set of transverse beams supporting the spits in a smoke-house for the curing of herring.

1865: [see spit n. 1 4d].

1895: A. Patterson Man & Nature on Broads 44 "A savoury bloater, fresh down from the `loves', is engrossing our own attentions."

1962: Granville Dict. Sailors' Slang 73/2 "Loves, wooden splines in a herring curing loft on which the fish are suspended to dry."

love, v. 1
(lʌv)Forms: 1-2 lufian, 2-3 luvie(n, 3 lovin, Orm. lufenn, lufie, lofvie, 3-4 luven, loven, lovie, luvie, -ye, 4 Sc. lowe, luff, 4-5 lofe, luffe, 4-6 luve, luf(e, 5 loufe, lovyn, Sc. low, 6 loove, (lub(be), Sc. luif, lwf, luyf, lwiff, (lude = luf it), 8- 9 Sc. lo'e, 3- love. pa. tense 1 lufode, 2-3 luvede, 3 lufede, lovede, 4 lovied, lofde, louved, lufud, -ed, luv(e)d, lufd, lovyd, north. luffet, lofit, 4-5 lovet, lowyt, 4-6 Sc. lovit, luf(f)it, -yt, 5 luf(f)ed, lofed, -id, -yd, loffyd, 6 Sc. luifed, luif(f)et, lwffit, lowitt, lude, lwd, luid, 4- loved. pa. pple. 1 ȝe-lufod, 2-3 iloved, y-, iluved, ileoved, 4-5 yloved, 4- (as in pa. tense).[OE. lufian, f. lufu love n. 1]

love, v. 1
1. a. trans. With personal obj. or one capable of personification: To bear love to; to entertain a great affection or regard for; to hold dear.

c825: Vesp. Psalter xvii. 1 "Ic lufiu ðe dryhten meȝen min."

1154: O.E. Chron. an. 1137 (Laud MS.) "Hi luueden God & gode men."

c1250: Gen. & Ex. 2042 "An litel stund, quhile he was ðer, So gan him luuen ðe prisuner."

a1300: Cursor M. 2328 "Þis abram..Ful wel was luued wit god of heuen."

1375: Barbour Bruce i. 360 "All men lufyt him for his bounte."

a1420: Hoccleve De Reg. Princ. 1260 "God in holy writ seith..`Whom so I loue, hym wole I chastyse'."

c1470: Henry Wallace x. 725, "I sall, quhill I may leiff, Low yow fer mar than ony othir knycht."

a1548: Hall Chron., Edw. IV 234b, "I love hym as my brother, and take hym as my frende."

a1600: Montgomerie Misc. Poems x. 45 "Love nane bot vhare thou art lude."

1647: Clarendon Hist. Reb. vi. 406 "He..loved his country with too unskilful a tenderness."

1653: Walton Angler vii. 153 "Tie the frogs leg above the upper joint to the armed wire, and in so doing use him as though you loved him."

1769: Goldsm. Hist. Rome (1786) I. 432 "Caesar..was loved almost to adoration by his army."

1856: Froude Hist. Eng. (1858) I. ii. 128 "A man who loved England well, but who loved Rome better."

1885: Ch. Times 13 Nov. 883 "Our nation is not much loved across the Atlantic."

love, v. 1
b. spec. with reference to love between the sexes. to love paramours: see paramour.

c1000: Ælfric Gen. xxiv. 67 "Isaac..underfeng hiȝ to wife and lufode hiȝ [etc.]."

1297: R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9549 "In som þing The quene louede as me wende more him þan þe king."

1375: Barbour Bruce x. 554, "I..lufit ane vench her in the toune."

1470-85: Malory Arthur vii. xxxv. 269, "I loue her aboue all ladyes lyuynge."

1567: Satir. Poems Reform. iv. 15 "Lancit with luif she luid me by all wycht."

1604: Shakes. Oth. iv. i. 111, "I neuer knew woman loue man so."

1667: Milton P.L. ix. 832 "So dear I love him, that with him all deaths I could endure."

1711: Ramsay Elegy on Maggy Johnstoun iii, "To bonny lasses black or brown, As we loo'd best."

1794: Burns Red, Red Rose ii, "And I will luve thee still, my dear, Till a' the seas gang dry."

1859: Tennyson Elaine 674-5 "If I love not him, I know there is none other I can love."

love, v. 1
c. Occasional uses, with cogn. obj. with complement, etc. Obs.

1470-85: Malory Arthur ix. viii. 364 "The good loue that I haue loued you."

1672: Dryden Marr. à la Mode i. i. Wks. 1883 IV. 261 "We loved, and we loved, as long as we could, 'Till our love was loved out in us both."

1678: All for Love ii. Wks. 1883 V. 369 "We have loved each other Into our mutual ruin."

love, v. 1
d. With up. To caress, fondle; to engage in love-play with. colloq. (orig. U.S.).

1921: J. Dos Passos Three Soldiers ii. iii. 83 "You said you were goin' back and love up that goddam girl."

1928: Dialect Notes VI. 62 "If a hillman [in the Ozarks] does admit that he loved a woman he means only that he caressed and embraced her—and he usually says that he loved her up."

1932: K. S. Prichard Kiss on Lips 167 "Why don't you give her a hug..love her up a bit?"

1957: J. Braine Room at Top xix. 166 "If you love me up, I'll be as warm as toast."

1968: M. Allwright Roundabout ix. 59, "I never meant any harm; it was just as if he was a puppy I was loving up."

love, v. 1
2. a. Proverbs.

1546: J. Heywood Prov. (1867) 76 "Loue me, loue me dog."

a1548: Hall Chron. (1809) 444 "The olde Proverbe love me little and love me longe."

1553: T. Wilson Rhet. (1580) 192 "A man maie loue his house well, and yet not ride vpon the ridge."

a1633: G. Herbert Jacula Prudentum 141 "Love your neighbour, yet pull not downe your hedge."

love, v. 1
b. In certain vulgar ejaculations: (Lord) love you (or your heart), etc.

c1810: W. Hickey Mem. (1913) II. i. 10 "Lord love your honour, to be sure I will."

1821: Scott Pirate I. i. 15 "But, Heaven love you, Mr Mertoun, think what you are purposing."

1833: T. Hook Parson's Dau. (1847) 231 "Love your heart, sir, a path's never straight."

1841: Lytton Nt. & Morn. ii. ix. II. 15 "Quiet! Lord love you! never heard a noisier little urchin!"

1843: Dickens Christmas Carol iii. 85 "They said it was a shame to quarrel upon Christmas Day. And so it was! God love it, so it was."

1894: R. Bridges Feast of Bacchus ii. 579 "Lord love you, I'm not surprised at any one wanting to marry you."

1898: J. D. Brayshaw Slum Silhouettes 1 "Mister Bloomfiel'? Lor' lummy! there ain't no misters 'ere."

Ibid. 141 "Mine? Lor' luv a duck! No, that's Sal Hogan's little lot."

1916: `Taffrail' Pincher Martin xii. 218 "`Lord love us!..d'you mean to say'—Words failed him."

1922: Joyce Ulysses 176 "Lord love a duck, he said, look at what I'm standing drinks to!"

1934: T. S. Eliot Rock ii. 65 "What's that? Lor-love-a-duck, it's the missus!"

1938: `J. Bell' Port of London Murders xv. 247 "`'Lor love us!' I says to meself. `Something's up.'"

1954: W. Sansom (title) "Lord love us."

1955: M. Allingham Beckoning Lady iv. 55 "Orf come 'is 'at, and lord luva duck!"

love, v. 1
3. absol. and intr.

love, v. 1
a. To entertain a strong affection; spec. to have a passionate attachment to a person of the opposite sex; to be in love.

c1250: Hymn Virgin 45 in Trin. Coll. Hom. App. 256 "Nis non maiden..þat swo derne louiȝe kunne."

a1300: Cursor M. 4510 "Qua leli luues for-gettes lat."

?a1366: Chaucer Rom. Rose 85 "Harde is the heart that loueth nought In Mey."

a1550: Christis Kirke Gr. iv, "He wald haif lufit, scho wald not lat him."

1604: Shakes. Oth. v. ii. 344 "One that lou'd not wisely, but too well."

1650: Baxter Saints' R. iii. x. 6 "No man else can tell me whether I Believe and Love, if I cannot tell my self."

1710: Lady M. W. Montagu Let. to W. Montagu 25 Apr., "I can esteem, I can be a friend, but I do not know whether I can love."

1850: Tennyson In Mem. xxvii, "'Tis better to have loved and lost, Than never to have loved at all."

love, v. 1
c. to love one's love with an A, with a B, etc.: a formula used in games of forfeits.

[1620: Swetnam Arraigned (Grosart) 24 "A husband..so complete As if he had been pickt out of the Christ-Crosse row... Ile begin with A..comparing his good parts as thus: for A, hee is Amiable, Bountefull, Courteous..now for Z he's Zealous."]

1672: Marvell Reh. Transp. i. Wks. 1776 II. 61 "One would think that..you should have learnt when J.O. came into play, to love your love with an J, because he is judicious, though you hate your love with an J, because he is jealous: and then to love your love with an O, because he is oraculous, though you hate your love with an O, because he is obscure."

1678: Butler Hud. iii. i. 1006 "For these you play at purposes, And love your love's with A's and B's."

1865: Dickens Mut. Fr. ii. i, "I'll give you a clue to my trade, in a game of forfeits. I love my love with a B because she's Beautiful; I hate my love with a B because she's Brazen; I took her to the sign of the Blue Boar, and I treated her with Bonnets; her name's Bouncer, and she lives in Bedlam."

love, v. 1
d. he loves me, he loves me not, etc.: a formula used in divining-games. Also transf.

[1909: A. E. Gillington Old Hampshire Singing Games facing p. 1 "Then they say `David Bailey' (Boy's name), Do you love me? Yes, No, etc. till the skipping girl stops. The two trilling the rope say—`Alma Bailey' (Girl's name), Do you love him? Yes, No, etc."]

1946: A. Uttley Country Things v. 64 "He loves me. He don't. He'll have me. He won't. He would if he could, But he can't."

1959: I. & P. Opie Lore & Lang. Schoolch. xv. 339 "Much energy and calculation is devoted to skipping through the alphabetthe following sequence being that used by an 11-year-old Portsmouth girl: Does he love me? Yes, no, yes, no... Will he marry me? Yes, no, yes, no."

1971: Guardian 10 July 11/2 "Eric Lubbock's private game of `he loves me, he loves me not' with press and politicians is coming to a blessed end."

love, v. 1
e. Phrases. an (or as) you (or thou, etc.) love me, if (or since) you love me: used as an imprecation; to love and leave you: a formula of departure; love them and leave them, etc.: seduce and abandon women.

1818: Carlyle Early Lett. (1886) 148 "Send a letter quickly, an thou love me."

1823: J. F. Cooper Pioneers i. i. 28 "Natty—you need say nothing of the shot, nor of where I am going—remember, Natty, as you love me."

1885: R. Holland Gloss. County of Chester 212 "Love you and leave you, a common saying when any visitor is going to take his departure. `Well a' mun love ye, and leave ye.'"

1917: `S. Rohmer' Si-Fan Mysteries xxxv. 264 "But in waiting for one who is stealthily entering a room, don't, as you love me, take it for granted that he will enter upright."

1930: Amer. Speech Dec. 92 "Love'em and leave'em."

1938: W. G. Hardy Turn back River 33 "Love 'em and leave 'em; that was the idea."

1946: K. Tennant Lost Haven (1947) xvi. 259, "I wouldn't try to keep me if I was you... Love me and let me leave."

1960: K. Amis Take Girl like You ii. 36 "I'm afraid I shall have to love you and leave you."

1967: J. Morgan Involved 11 "`Dewi, I have to love you and leave you,' Frankie said. `I'm supposed to be on duty.'"

1975: H. McCutcheon Instrument of Vengeance vii. 123 "`I have many interests.' `But no girls?.. You just love them and leave them, no?'"

love, v. 1
c. To take pleasure in the existence of (a virtue, a practice, a state of things) in oneself, in others, or in the world generally.

a1225: Leg. Kath. 431 "Ȝef ha nalde leauen þet ha ȝet lefde, & hare lahe luuien."

c1250: Old Kent. Serm. in O.E. Misc. 28 "We mowe..luuie þo ilek [read ilke] þinkes þat he luued."

a1300: Cursor M. 20114 "Ne luued scho notþer fight ne strijf."

1387: Trevisa Higden (Rolls) VIII. 25 "He..loved wel pees and quyet."

1422: tr. Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv. 122 "Euer lowynge ryght and verite."

1567: Gude & Godlie Ball. (S.T.S.) 122 "Thow luiffis treuth, gude Lord."

1653: Walton Angler xiii. 246 "All that hate contentions, and love quietnesse, and vertue, and Angling."

1775: Burke Corr. (1844) II. 26, "I love firm government."

1902: Edin. Rev. July 84 "Universal humanity loves sharp practice."

love, v. 1
b. in reciprocal sense; in ME. to love together (or samen). Obs.

1340: Hampole Pr. Consc. 1849 "Þe body and þe saul with þe lyfe Lufes mare samen þan man and hys wyfe."

1387: Trevisa Higden (Rolls) III. 373 "It is spedful þat frendes love wel."

1470-85: Malory Arthur xviii. i. 725 "They loued to gyder more hotter than they did to fore hand."

1568: Grafton Chron. I. 173 "They loved after, as two brethren, during their naturall lyves."

1593: Shakes. 2 Hen. VI, iv. vii. 139 "Let them kisse one another: For they lou'd well When they were aliue."

1601: Jul. C. iv. iii. 131 "Loue, and be Friends."

1790: Cowper Let. to Newton 15 Oct., "The day of separation between those who have loved long and well is an awful day."

1791: Burns `Ae fond kiss' ii, "Had we never lov'd sae kindly."

a1849: [see love n. 1 4].

love, v. 1
c. to love with: to bear or make love to; to be in love with. Obs. or arch.

1665: R. Brathwait Comment Two Tales 96 "That they may have Husbands Meek, to live with, Young, to love with, and Fresh, to lie with."

1883: R. W. Dixon Mano i. iii. 7 "He was so gentle and so fair a knight, Who loved with Blanche."

love, v. 1
4. trans. With a thing as obj.:

love, v. 1
a. To be strongly attached to, to be unwilling to part with or allow to perish (life, honour, etc.).

c950: Lindisf. Gosp. John xii. 25 "Seðe lufað sauel his spildeð hia."

c1175: Lamb. Hom. 15 "Þu aȝest luuan heore saule for cristes luue."

13..: Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 2368 "Bot for ȝe lufed your lyf, þe lasse I yow blame."

c1412: Hoccleve De Reg. Princ. 462 "Lordes, if ye your estat and honour Louen, fleemyth this vicius errour!"

1432-50: tr. Higden (Rolls) VII. 25 "The erle..preide her as sche luffed hir lyfe that [etc.]."

1530: Palsgr. 735/1 "No man styrre and he love his lyfe."

1649: Lovelace Lucasta, Going to Wars iii, "I could not love thee (Deare) so much, Lov'd I not Honour more."

1661: Marvell Corr. Wks. 1872-5 II. 71 "As you loue your own affairs,..be pleased..to let me know your minds in these points."

love, v. 1
b. To have a strong liking for; to be fond of; to be devoted or addicted to. In the U.S. a frequent vulgarism for like.

c1200: Trin. Coll. Hom. 99 "It warð on eches muð wat mete se he mest luuede."

1297: R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7698 "Game of houndes he louede."

c1386: Chaucer Cook's T. 12 "He loved bet the Taverne than the shoppe."

c1400: tr. Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh. 113 "Þis man ys lycherous, deceyuant, and loufand lecherye."

1432-50: tr. Higden (Rolls) IV. 393 "This Nero luffede gretely instrumentes musicalle."

1611: Bible Prov. xx. 13 "Loue not sleepe, lest thou come to pouertie."

1622: Fletcher Beggars Bush iv. v, "I love a fat goose, as I love allegiance."

1690: Locke Hum. Und. ii. xx. 4 "When a Man declares..that he loves Grapes, it is no more, but that the taste of Grapes delights him."

1738: Swift Pol. Conversat. 10 "Colonel, Don't you love Bread and Butter with your Tea?"

1796: H. Glasse Cookery iii. 19 "Some love a pig brought whole to table."

1801: Gouv. Morris in Sparks Life & Writ. (1832) III. 146, "I respect the English nation highly, but I do not love their manners."

1817: Scott Search after Happiness xviii, "She loved a book, and knew a thing or two."

1849: Macaulay Hist. Eng. iv. I. 447 "The new king, who loved the details of naval business."

1859: Bartlett Dict. Amer., "To Love, for to like. `Do you love pumpkin pie?'"

love, v. 1
Add: [4.] d. (With gerund or gerundive phrase as obj.) To enjoy, to take pleasure in (doing, being, etc.). Cf. *like v. 1 6 h.

a1500: Emare viii. 78 "The emperour..myche loued playnge."

1545: R. Ascham Toxophilus (Arb.) 45 "The best learned and sagest men in this Realme..both loue shoting and vse shoting."

1623: New & Merry Prognost. sig. E2, "Beggars loue brawling, And wretches loue wrawling."

1732: in T. Fuller Gnomologia 216 "They love dancing well, that dance barefoot upon thorns."

1828: E. Bulwer-Lytton Pelham II. v. 46 "For the rest, he loved trotting better than cantering."

1911: M. Beerbohm Let. 6 Dec. (1964) 211 "You who..love being behind the scenes among T-lights and properties."

1991: N.Y. Times Mag. 17 Nov. 43/2 "While she has a driver in the city, she loves taking the wheel in the country."

love, v. 1
5. Of plants or animals: To have a tendency to thrive in (a certain kind of situation). Cf. L. amare, diligere.

1601: Holland Pliny I. 462 "The Pitch-tree loveth the mountains and cold grounds."

1706: London & Wise Retir'd Gard'ner I. xi. 157 "Fig-trees..love loose, hot ground."

1760: Brown Compl. Farmer ii. 85 "All sorts of pease love limed or marled land."

1774: Goldsm. Nat. Hist. (1776) IV. 22 "Rabbits are found to love a warm climate, and to be incapable of bearing the cold of the north."

1796: C. Marshall Garden. xix. (1813) 331 "Willow herb..loves moisture."

1866: B. Taylor Proposal Poems 257 "The violet loves a sunny bank."

love, v. 1
6. a. Const. inf. To have great pleasure in doing something. Also rarely of things (= L. amare, Gr. φιλεῖν) to be accustomed (obs.).

c1350: Will. Palerne 162 "ȝe þat louen & lyken to listen a-ni more."

14..: Sir Beues (MS. M.) 82 "He lovith not with me to rage."

1581: G. Pettie Guazzo's Civ. Conv. iii. (1586) 126 "Those women that loue not to curle vp their haire roistinglie, but vse to kembe it downe smoothlie."

1601: Holland Pliny I. 462 "The Larch tree..loveth to grow in the same places."

1614: Raleigh Hist. World v. iii. 15. 436 "Young men..loue to seeme wiser then their fathers."

1626: Bacon Sylva 703 "Salmons and Smelts loue to get into Riuers, though it be against the Streame."

1704: F. Fuller Med. Gymn. (1711) 103 "They don't love to be told the Truth, tho' it is ever so necessary."

1728-46: Thomson Spring 402 "Down to the river, in whose ample wave Their little naiads love to sport at large."

1859: Bartlett Dict. Amer. s.v., "`I'd love to have that bonnet'."

1875: Jowett Plato (ed. 2) I. 246, "I love to hear you wise men talk."

love, v. 1
b. with acc. and inf. or obj.-clause: To desire or like (something to be done). Obs.

c1380: Wyclif Wks. (1880) 440 "He louyde hem not to be worldly riche."

1682: T. Flatman Heraclitus Ridens No. 74 (1713) II. 205 "Our Whigs don't love Justice should be executed without 'em."

love, v. 1
7. To embrace affectionately. (A childish use.)

1877: J. Habberton Helen's Babies 31, "`I was only a-lovin' you, cos you was good, and brought us candy'."

1889: Harper's Mag. July 271/2 "Putting his arms round her neck, [he] `loved' her with his cheek against hers."

1893: Olive Schreiner Story Afr. Farm ii. i. 132 "Some pale-green, hairy-leaved bushes..meet over our head; and we sit among them, and kiss them, and they love us back."

love, v. 1
8. Comb.: love-and-tear-it dial. [corruption of Lavatera], the tree mallow, Lavatera arborea; love-man, cleavers, Galium Aparine; love-pot a., drunken.

1598: Florio, "Philantropo, the herbe goose-grasse or loue man."

1611: Ibid., "Berghinellare, to gad abrode a gossoping as a pratling loue-pot woman."

1611: Cotgr., "Riéble, Cleauer,..Loue-man, Goose-grasse."

1880: A. Sartoris Past Hours II. 55 "`Love-and-tear-it!'—the name..down in our part of the world for..the mallow."APPENDED FROM ADDITIONS 1997love, v. 1

love, v. 2 Obs.
Forms: 1 lofian, 3 Orm. lofenn, 4 louve, 4-5 loove, lof(e, Sc. loyf, 4-6 love, Sc. low(e, 5 lowf, 5-6 Sc. loif(e, 6 loave, Sc. lowff, loff.[OE. lofian = OS. lobon (Du. loven), OHG. lobôn, lobên (MHG., mod.G. loben), ON. lofa (Sw. lofva, Da. love):—OTeut. lobôjan, -æjan, f. *lobo- praise: see lof.]

love, v. 2 Obs.
1. trans. To praise, extol.

a1000: Cædmon's Gen. 508 "Ic ȝehyrde hine þine dæd & word lofian on his leohte."

c1200: Ormin 3484 "Menn sholldenn cnawenn himm & lofenn himm & wurrþenn."

a1300: Cursor M. 18487 "Loues nu vr lauerd dright."

14..: How Good Wife taught Dau. 140 (in Barbour's Bruce, etc. 529) "Loyf all leid, and no man lak."

1456: Sir G. Haye Law Arms (S.T.S.) 27 "He was lufit, and lovit, and honourit throuout all the warld."

c1470: Henry Wallace xi. 1460, "I yow besek,..Quha will nocht low, lak nocht my eloquence."

1513: Douglas Æneis i. Prol. 427 "Virgill did diligence..Eneas for to loife and magnify."

1535: Coverdale Ps. cvi. 32 "They wolde exalte him in the congregacion of the people, & loaue him in the seate of the elders."

a1586: Montgomerie Misc. Poems I. 1 "Luiffaris, leif of to loif so hie ȝour ladyes." with cogn. obj.

a1300: E.E. Psalter cv. 12 "Þai..looued his lofe [Vulg. laudaverunt laudem ejus]."

1340: Hampole Pr. Consc. 321 "Þai..loved his lovyng als þai couth say."

love, v. 2 Obs.
b. absol. To give praise; also, to flatter.

c1000: Ags. Ps. (Th.) lxx. 21 "Mine weleras ȝefeoð, wynnum lofiað."

c1470: Henryson Fables iii. xxx. in Anglia IX. 360 "To loif and le that settis thair haill delite."

c1475: Rauf Coilȝear 87 "For first to lofe, and syne to lak, Peter! it is schame."

1549: Compl. Scot. xv. 130 "To loue vitht out flattery."

1596: Dalrymple tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot. II. x. 474 "Gif tha Loue, praise ouermekle, or commend."

love, v. 2 Obs.
2. To appraise, estimate or state the price or value of.

c1200: Trin. Coll. Hom. 213 "Þe sullere loueð his þing dere... Ðe beȝer bet litel þar fore."

c1440: Promp. Parv. 314/2 "Lovon, and bedyn as chapmen, licitor."

c1460: Towneley Myst. xx. 239 "Now, Judas, sen he shalbe sold How lowfys thou hym?"

1530: Palsgr. 614/2, "I love, as a chapman loveth his ware that he wyll sell... Come of, howe moche love you it at?"

love
variant of lof, loove; obs. f. loof, luff.